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THE HISTORY

OF

THURLASTON.

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THE

History of Thurlaston,

Leicestershire,

INCLUDING

NORMANTON TURVILLE, NEW HALL PARK,

AND BASSETT HOUSE,

COLLECTED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, AND WRITTEN IN NARRATIVE FORM,

BY

JOHN ORDISH HULME,

BEING

AN ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCH AND PARISH FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE YEAR 1897, THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

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To

THE REVD. WILLIAM TOWNSHEND, M.A.,

PRESENT RECTOR OF THURLASTON,

AND RURAL DEAN,

THIS HISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND PARISH

IS

BY HIS PERMISSION

SPECIALLY DEDICATED.

August 9th, 1904.

Halliday 7 Aug: 1929

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Introduction.

To any one who attempts to write the History of a small Country Parish, there must naturally occur difficulties which are not experienced by the author of fiction or even of general history. The writer of fiction may give free play to his imagination in every direction, and no fault can be found with this so long as his writing is true to life and nature; the author of general history has plenty of material in National and Official Records, well preserved and duly authenticated, from which he can form a true statement of the subject he has in hand; while in both these cases, if the book be at all interesting, it may reasonably be expected to fall into the hands of perhaps thousands of readers, and obtain a wide circulation in the first and in subsequent editions. But, in a parochial history, unless some great national event or celebrated circumstance has occurred within its limits, the circulation it may be anticipated to acquire must necessarily, at the best, be comparatively small, the subject being only interesting to those who are either natives of the place or have lived in it long enough to feel connected with its welfare: to some others it may appeal from the fact that the parish is the resting-place of some dear relative or friend; while to a very limited number of other persons, generally known as *antiquarians*, who gladly avail themselves of any information that may be gleaned about the past, it may be found useful to increase the historical collection they have already accumulated.

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Then, as regards the History itself, the labour of collecting the materials from many books and documents, of distinguishing between truth and mere conjecture, of deciding how much to insert as of importance, how much to omit as unnecessary to the object in view;—and the regret that must be felt in rejecting as worthless some local tradition long cherished by the parishioners, but of which no authenticated record can be found;—all these obstacles may well deter any person from attempting to write and publish the History of a small Parish.

In this particular case, however, having had special opportunities accorded to me during the past few years of collecting information about the ancient Church and Parish of Thurlaston, the encouragement I have received in the matter has prompted me to go on with the task; and it now seems fitting that no more time shall be allowed to pass away without placing before the parishioners as complete an account as possible of what has happened here in past ages.

As I have already privately and individually acknowledged the generous permission given me to peruse the valuable books and documents in the Reference Department of the Leicester Public Free Library, in the British Museum, in the Lichfield Cathedral Library, as well as other assistance, I now publicly tender my hearty thanks to everyone who in any way, however slight, has aided me by placing information at my disposal.

As very much of the history gleaned from the older chronicles is compiled in a style and language not suitable for general reading, I have thought it well to arrange the whole account in a more narrative form, and as far as possible in its proper consecutive order, so as to make it acceptable and instructive to all classes of readers; placing in an Appendix, for the sake of those who wish for them, as many extracts from the

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original documents as seem necessary to explain the ordinary text. Believing also that the History of a Parish is in many respects an illustration, if not a *fac-simile* of that of the kingdom at large, I have decided to write it from the stand-point of English History in general, showing the connection between the two, and the way in which the latter affected the former.

The Chronological Table, giving briefly the contemporary History of Church and State, of the Diocese and the Parish, will no doubt be both interesting and instructive. The few sketches with which the book is illustrated are copies taken by myself from the original plates.

As I believe this is the first attempt to write the separate History of this Parish, a work which is not likely to be *often* repeated, if *ever* again, I hope that every past and present parishioner who is at all interested in the subject will endeavour to possess a copy; and if the perusal of its pages will make some at least value more than they have done the parochial as well as national blessings handed down to them from past times, the labour and patience bestowed upon it will not have been in vain.

J. O. H.

1904.

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The History of Thurlaston.

THERE are at the present time two places in England, which, exactly alike in form and pronunciation, bear the name of *Thurlaston;* the one being the civil and ecclesiastical parish in Leicestershire, the other a small hamlet in Warwickshire, a part of the parish of Dunchurch.

Besides these, there are others approaching very nearly to them in form, though variously spelt; namely, *Thurlestone* or *Thulston* near Derby, *Thurlestone* on the south coast of Devon, and *Thurlstone* near Sheffield in Yorkshire. To go further, there are three other names which differ from Thur*l*aston only in one letter; these are Thur*m*aston, near Leicester,—Thur*c*aston, still further north in the county, the birth-place of Bishop Hugh Latimer,—and a very small hamlet in Derbyshire, called Thur*v*aston. All these names, with several more in which the first syllable is identical, but which vary more or less widely in the latter part of the word, might naturally be supposed at first sight to have had a common origin and similar meaning, and to have been nearly connected with the name of "*Thor*," the Thunderer, the chief deity worshipped by our Saxon forefathers, from which we derive the name *Thursday*, and which in the Heathen Mythology corresponded with the Roman god *Jupiter* and the Greek *Zeus*.

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But when we come to see the original form of these place-names, which partly from books and partly by correspondence with responsible residents I have been able to do, we find that in their earliest spelling and pronunciation they differed to a much greater degree than they do at the present day, and that the view of their having had a common origin must be set aside.

To take another name by which a large portion of this parish is called, it will be found that there are no less than ten places in the kingdom which bear the name of *Normanton*. Of these, three are in Leicestershire; namely, *Normanton-le-Heath*, now a separate ecclesiastical parish, —*Normanton* in the parish of Bottesford,—and *Normanton Turville* in the parish of Thurlaston.

Having made this general allusion to other place-names for the purpose of showing both their similarity and distinction, we may now confine our attention to the History of this Parish of Thurlaston; and I here give a list of the various forms in which during the course of ages the name of the Parish has appeared, as well as of others connected with it, namely :—

Turchitelestone—Turchilestone—Thorkelestone
Thurkelestone —Thurlestone —Thurleston
Thurlston —Thulston —and Thurlaston
Family Names—Champaine—Champeyne—Campania
,, ,, Bouge—Boug—Bug—Bugge
,, ,, Tourvile—Tourvill—Turvile—Turville
,, ,, Rowe—Roe—Row—Rooe.

Taking the history of our country, so far as we can rely on its truth, as beginning when the Roman general, Julius Cæsar, invaded the island fifty-five years before the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, we find that for nearly nine centuries of the period thus embraced, there is nothing to indicate particularly the condition of that portion of the land which we now know by the name of *Thurlaston*. There are various reasons for this. During

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the time of the Ancient Britons, written history was unknown, the remembrance of important events being only handed down in the songs of the Druid Bards; and until the Anglo-Saxon chronicle was commenced for this purpose, the same oral method of conveying information about particular incidents was the only one employed,—when the Saxon minstrels sang to the harp some song of the olden time.

There are, however, sometimes other sources from which a little knowledge about the earliest state of a parish may be obtained. The two principal of these are:—first, antiquarian researches, either intentional or accidental;—and secondly, the ancient names of the physical features of the parish. It does not however appear, from the Reports of any Archæological Society, that in the course of excavations within the parish, either in connection with ordinary work, or undertaken strictly for purposes of research, any relics have been brought to light of British or Roman origin; no barrow, shewing the heathen burying-place of an ancient Briton, no Roman pottery, tessellated pavement, or other work of art has apparently been revealed, marking the time before and after Christ, when the old Britons ran wild through the dense forests; or that later period when the Roman conquerors, having formed such strongholds as Lei*cester* and other places of similar name, very gradually and with much difficulty subdued the native race, and gave them a share in their own civilization by teaching them the arts of agriculture, dress, and building, and the formation of good straight roads, like Watling Street and the Foss.

The names of the parish, moreover, and of all its physical features, whether fields, lanes, woods or streams, as shewn on the old Terrier or Land-Roll, two parchment copies of which are still preserved (Appendix I., K.), are purely Saxon, and it is to that period we must look for the first account of the parish.

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After the Romans had ruled Britain for more than 350 years, they were obliged, on account of the decay of their empire, to leave the natives to their own resources of government and war; and the latter at once became the victims of all the surrounding tribes. It was then that the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, known under the common name of Anglo-Saxons, the first forefathers of our English race, by degrees obtained possession of the land, and drove the old Britons into the western parts of the island to become the ancestors of the Welsh people. The Britons during their period of civilization had become Christians, and given to the world such martyrs as St. Alban; it is sad to know that our heathen forefathers, worshipping many fabulous gods, persecuted the Christians they found here, and destroyed the Christian temples.

But that Ancient British Church still exists, now known as the Church *of* England *in* Wales, and in spite of recent attempts to destroy it, has, under Divine protection, weathered the storm.

The Anglo-Saxon tribes, from the year 449 A.D., and during the course of the next 150 years, formed at least seven small kingdoms, generally but erroneously called the Heptarchy; while these kingdoms still existed, from the arrival of Saint Augustine in 597, the Saxon English gradually became Christians. But there were constant wars between the various states, and as a consequence of these, and the changes they produced, the seven or more kingdoms by degrees were reduced to three important ones, bearing the names of Northumbria, Mercia, and Wessex. The first of these, as its name denotes, embraced the whole north of England; the last the country south of the Thames, while *Mercia*, a vast state, taking in the whole middle part of the country, included the present county of Leicester, and consequently the Parish of Thurlaston.

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Having arrived at this stage, it may be fit to apologize in some measure for having dwelt so much on this early history of our country, while Thurlaston remains a blank; if, however, we are anxious to show the growth of our national as well as our parochial life, some excuse may be made for giving this summary, which after all is only a brief one, leading up to the time when, the three Saxon kingdoms still existing as distinct states, we first get a glimpse of the history of this parish. From that time up to the present, for more than a thousand years, there is abundance of matter to make the history of Thurlaston interesting; and it may well be a matter of surprise that with a very few exceptions, to be afterwards mentioned, it has so scantily engaged the attention given to other parishes by Archæologists and those who value places more for their ancient than their modern importance. It may reasonably be hoped that in future more interest may be taken in the parish and its past history, and every effort made to separate truth from mere conjecture.

In the early days of the Anglo-Saxon Church, while Withlaf was King of Mercia, there lived within the bounds of this parish a Saxon dignitary known as Vice-Comes (or Deputy Earl), *Norman*, his rank being similar to that of a modern High Sheriff.

It is not surprising that this name *Norman* should appear so long before the Norman Conquest, for it is simply another name for Norse or Northman, and all our English ancestors, whether Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Danes, or Norman, were more or less Northmen originally. The most simple way of expressing the name of a residence in Saxon times was by adding the syllable *ton*, which stood for the dwelling of the chief, by no means a grand one, and the few still ruder dwellings of his people.

The residence here referred to was therefore the *ton* or *town* of Vice Earl *Norman*, and was called *Norman-ton*. More than 200 years after, when it passed into the

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possession of the real Norman family who held it for so long a time, it took their name in addition, and has ever since been known as *Normanton Turville*. Pious men had already begun to devote a portion of their lands and other property for sacred purposes; and it was the custom in those early days, before the settled organization of the Church took place in the form of Diocese and Parish, to present these gifts to the nearest church or community of holy men that could be found. At that time there stood in that part of Mercia now called Lincolnshire, a religious house, now in ruins, called Croyland Abbey. In the year 833, King Withlaf of Mercia, in his Charter to the Abbey, confirmed or sanctioned certain gifts of land already made to that church by Vice-Earl Norman, already spoken of. These gifts consisted of two carucates of plough-lands and a windmill in Sutton near Bosworth, the manor of Stapleton, with two carucates of land there, and the manor of Badby in Northamptonshire, with four hides of land and thirty acres of meadow there. (Appendix I., A.) The gift was again confirmed by Beorred, the succeeding King of Mercia in 868. Although this grant made by the first owner of Normanton was not to his own particular parish, nor yet for strictly parochial purposes, as we now understand them, it must be considered that it was done in the best way, under the particular circumstances of the Church, at that time; and much notice should be taken of it; for it was one of many instances in which good men of olden time liberally gave for the service of God a large portion of their substance, and especially should it be remembered that this was long before the existence of a National Parliament, and even before England had firmly become one State; for though Egbert, King of Wessex, soon after this, so far subdued the other States as to be acknowledged as the first Monarch of all Angle-land, or England, the country was for long after always

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unsettled, and was not really consolidated till after the Norman Conquest, which took place two centuries later. Passing by the reigns of Egbert, the first Saxon Monarch, of his son Ethelwulf, and his three grandsons, Ethelbald, Ethelbert, and Ethelred, we come to the name of his fourth grandson Alfred, who with the various titles of Alfred the Great, Alfred the Truthteller, and Alfred the Shepherd of his people, will ever be revered as one of the best and wisest kings who ever lived; and I think the people of Thurlaston may be justly proud to learn that it was from a worthy grandson of that great and good man that their parish obtained its earliest name, and through whom, strange to say, its record is again indirectly connected with that of Croyland Abbey.

King Alfred was succeeded in the year 901 by his son Edward the Elder. He however had another son, named Ethelward; and this was the father of the man who under various spellings of his name was known as Thorkell, Thorketill, Thurketyl, Turketyl, or Turchetil, from which we get the name Turchetil'stone, now Thurlaston. The document in which this occurs as the original name of the manor will have to be spoken of at greater length a few pages further on; in the meantime it may be mentioned that though there were persons of similar name to which the place might have been indebted for its earliest appellation, Turketyl, the grandson of Alfred the Great, is the only person of Saxon times mentioned as being connected with this portion of the county, where he was the possessor of sixty manors, several Leicestershire villages being under his patronage.

His uncle, Edward the Elder, delivered to him his paternal inheritance, and tried in various ways to advance his fortunes; but his mind seemed bent on the service of the Church, and after displaying great ability in various missions entrusted to him during the reigns of his cousins Athelstane, Edmund the Elder, and Edred, the great

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work of his mature years was the restoration of the old abbey of Croyland, after the disasters it had suffered at the hands of the cruel and heathen Danes.

These enemies, another race of Northmen from the rugged coasts of northern Europe, known as the Danish Sea-kings, had been troubling England before it became one State; their successful invasions enabled them to establish themselves in the country, and at certain intervals to command its government. It was in order to preserve peace with the Danish chiefs that Alfred and succeeding Saxon kings allowed them to settle in the district called Dane-lagh, which included Leicestershire and other portions of the midland counties.

It should be noted that while the name Thurlaston is of Saxon origin, the names of many other villages which were comprised in the Dane-lagh are of Danish origin; such as Enderby, Cosby, Ratby, Kirkby, Kirby, and others.

The story of Alfred and the Cakes and of his visiting the Danish camps in the disguise of a harper are well-known stories of his early struggles with the Danes.

Turketyl was travelling on King Edmund's service towards York, in the year 942, when he passed by Croyland. Three aged monks were all that were left in the abbey after the Danish cruelties, and they were in extreme poverty. Struck by the state of affairs, he in a few years obtained leave from the next King Edred to rebuild the monastery, and endow it with many of his own manors. From being Chancellor of the Kingdom, he now became first Abbot of the new abbey of Croyland, where he continued his good work in the cause of religion and advancement of learning, until his death in the year 975, aged 68. A statue of the Lord Abbot Turketyl was one of those adorning the lower part of the west front of Croyland, and great efforts have been made by a frequent visitor to the ruins to preserve it from destruction.

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After Edred reigned his two nephews Edwy and Edgar. The latter must be remembered as having done his best, by requiring 300 wolves' heads from the Welsh princes as a yearly tribute, to rid England of those savage creatures, which in Saxon times were a terror to the householders, particularly in winter time, and in the month of January, called the wolf month, when deep snows and consequent hunger made them desperate in search of food. It is not easy to imagine the feelings of the inhabitants of Thurlaston in those days, when the door of the hut was closely barred, and the inmates huddled together in fear, because they heard the wolf howling outside; but in the old story of the little Red Riding Hood, we have a not unpleasing reminiscence of the dangers that had then to be encountered. Edgar was succeeded by his two sons, Edward the Martyr and Ethelred the Unready. It was during the reign of Ethelred, who was never ready for any emergency, that the throne passed for a few years to Danish kings, the most noted being Canute, who put to shame his flattering courtiers when he proved to them on the sea beach that God alone was Ruler of the earth and sea.

After the death of Edmund Ironside, with whom a fresh agreement had been made about the Dane-lagh, Canute became sole king, and after a prosperous reign was followed by his sons, both very different in character from himself, namely Harold Harefoot and Hardicanute. It was then that in the course of much trouble, and when the two races of Saxon and Dane had to a certain extent become one, that the old line of kings was restored in the person of Edward the Confessor. Having passed his early days in France, where other Northmen had been settled since the time of Alfred, he had during that exile with his father Ethelred acquired a taste for foreign customs and habits, and a dislike of the old-fashioned Saxon ways. Those Northmen of France, though retaining

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their own freedom, had imbibed French habits and spoke the French language. The portion of France where they had settled was called Normandy, and they were known as Normans. Edward the Confessor, therefore, being a Norman at heart, brought over to his kingdom many of that race, to whom he made many gifts, and established them in the chief offices of state. He nevertheless endeavoured to rule the kingdom well, and the old laws of his time with those of King Alfred, were afterwards made the basis of our present English laws and freedom. Edward would have made a better priest than king, and the government was left chiefly in the hands of the great earls, who had command of the old states, once kingdoms, such as *Mercia* and the rest.

We find that during the reign of Edward the Confessor, Thurlaston was the property of two owners, named Alwyn and Baldwin. These would, no doubt, according to Saxon divisions of rank, be called lesser thanes; in what proportions they held the land in this parish we do not know, but it is not unlikely that the two manors of Thurlaston and Normanton were then as afterwards counted as one parish, and that Alwyn and Baldwin were the *respective* lords of the manors. The value of the land was also said to be twenty shillings, a small sum indeed according to present reckoning, but considering that a Saxon pound contained three times as much silver as a present one, and would buy at least ten times as much of the necessaries of life, £30 would not be a despicable sum for land, which in those times was not in a high state of cultivation, with much more waste; and the two Saxon landowners of Thurlaston, not having the same advanced notions of ease and luxury, which are common to all classes at the present day, would perhaps think themselves passing rich on their joint income of £30 a year. The names of *Alwyn* and *Baldwin*, frequently used in that age, still survive, particularly the former,

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which is a genuine Saxon name, and is sometimes given to females; the latter, also of Teutonic origin, occurs again in the fifteenth century as the Christian name of one of the lords of the manor of Thurleston.

We now draw to a close of that period before the Norman Conquest, during which we have had only occasional glimpses of the history of Thurleston, and in which we learn nothing definite about the existence of a Parish Church. We do know, however, that the Anglo-Saxon land-owners, in very many instances, erected houses of God on their estates, in addition to the gifts they made to the monasteries, those large and beautiful centres of religion and learning; and it is unlikely that such men as Vice-Earl Norman and Turketyl would in their zeal for the latter neglect to provide the means of worship on their own immediate lands. In those unsettled times, however, it was not always practicable to have a church close at hand, and where one did exist for a parish, it was mostly of very simple construction, often only of wood, like many mission churches now; and it must be admitted that, as in many wild districts of our Colonies now-a-days, our Saxon forefathers would take far more trouble to attend the distant house of God, than we do the one close at hand. We can only hope, in the absence of direct proof, that the earliest parishioners of Thurlaston had a Christian temple in their midst during those first centuries of English Christianity, when the parish, under the various changes which necessity required, would belong successively to the Diocese of Mercia under the Bishops of Lichfield, to that of Leicester and Dorchester, until about the time of the Norman Conquest it became part of the Diocese of Lincoln, in which it continued even after the formation of the Peterborough Diocese in the sixteenth century.

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Edward the Confessor was buried in the newly-built Abbey of Westminster, and was succeeded by Harold, son of the powerful Earl Godwin, as the only man capable of uniting the Saxon and Danish races, for the coming struggle with the Norman Duke William, who coveted and claimed the land on various grounds.

The Battle of Hastings, fought on the 14th of October, 1066, ended in victory for the Norman invaders, Harold, the last Saxon king, being slain. Duke William, on the following Christmas Day, was crowned King of England as William the First, being better known as William the Conqueror. One of the great families in the Duchy of Normandy was that of Tourvile or Tourlavile, who held ten seignories or principal manors there; and on the Roll of Battle Abbey, erected on the battlefield in memory of William's victory, appears among other noble names as companions in arms of the Conqueror, that of William de Tourvile, Norman ancestor of the Turviles of Normanton, Thurleston, New Hall, Aston Flamvile, Husbands Bosworth, and other places.

From this time the history of Thurleston becomes definite and continuous, the parish, with its component townships, being frequently recognized in Official Records of the Realm.

The Conqueror was soon called upon by his Norman followers, as well as by the adventurers from other parts of Europe, who had assisted him in his invasion of England, to reward them for their services. This he did by distributing amongst them the lands and property of the conquered Saxons; but as this distribution was in the first place hastily made, before a thorough knowledge of the country had been obtained, much exchange and re-adjustment afterwards took place. Geoffry de Wirce, of a noble family in Bretagne, who had followed William, thus in the first instance obtained the paramount manor of Melton, with twenty-six other lordships,

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Thurleston being one of them. It appears that the king, being anxious to have Thurleston in his own possession, obtained it from Geoffry de Wirce, not by recalling his gift, but by giving him in exchange the manors of Norton and Staunton Wyvile, with six plough-lands in Newton, and a plough-land and a half in Withcoe. (Appendix I., B.) Thus William himself in the end became possessed of 1422 manors in different counties, besides some scattered lands and farms, and quit rents paid out of several other manors. The Saxons did not quietly submit to their victors, and many acts of severity attended William's rule. The order for the ringing of the Curfew Bell as the signal for extinguishing the fires at eight o'clock, and the laying waste of much land, with the destruction of villages and churches, either to reduce his subjects to submission, or as in the case of the New Forest, simply for the pleasures of the chase, are some of the harsh measures for which the Conqueror was hated; but it is now necessary to speak of one great work carried out by his command, which even at the present day is of great historical importance, and without which we should probably know much less about our old parishes than we do at present. It is the custom in recent years for our Government to send out men in sections all over the kingdom to take measurements of various kinds, by which they are afterwards able to show on neat and carefully drawn maps, the exact size, shape, and position of every enclosure, building, stream, road, &c., in every parish, as well as by cleverly adjusted instruments, the height above the mean-water mark at Liverpool, of all important points. This work, with the corresponding records of the state and tillage of the land and other interesting facts, is known as the Ordnance Survey, and the maps produced on various scales at Southampton from these calculations are both useful and instructive.

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It was for a great survey of the kingdom that in the year 1080 King William appointed commissioners, who were instructed to ascertain in each county into whose hands the various estates of the Saxons had fallen, with a thorough investigation of the condition of each manor, with the number of tenants in fee, oxen and ploughs, and much more information on particular points. It was only in the northern counties that this could not be carried out, on account of the devastation that had taken place and the fear of the Normans to enter those parts; in all other counties of England a most complete record was made, the work being finished in about six years, and the particulars written on two vellum rolls, called by the Normans the Roll of Winchester, because kept in the Treasury of that Cathedral, and by the Saxons the Domesday Book, or Book of the Last Judgment. The latter name, by which this record is generally known, was given on account of its exactness in detail; and though the name was of course erroneously bestowed, this Domesday Book has become a lasting evidence of the state of the old manors in the year 1086, twenty years after William became king. Within recent years the record contained in Domesday Book, originally written in Latin with a mixture of Saxon, with the use of many abbreviations, has been reproduced at the Ordnance Office by a process called photo-zincography, the text extended and translated into modern English, and published in parts containing the separate counties. It is in Domesday Book that the original name of the parish is to be found, the Norman commissioners taking account of what it had been called in Saxon times, to whom it had been allotted at the Conquest, and to whom it belonged at the time of the survey. This information was obtained by taking the oath of every Norman and Saxon on the estate they visited. Thus the dependents of Geoffry de Wirce gave evidence that their lord held

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Norton and Staunton Wyville with six plough-lands in Newton, and a plough-land and a half in Withcoe, and that each and all of these were held by him of the king, "in exchange for the manor which was called *Turchilestone*." I have already explained that this original name of the parish signifies the "town of *Turchetil*," whose name has besides been variously spelt Thurketil, Turketyl, Thorkell, and Thorketill.

One of the great men to whom William was indebted for firm support was *Hugo de Grantmaisnell*, whom he made to be Viscount of Leicester and Baron of Hinckley, bestowing on him sixty-seven lordships in this county. Hugo also became hereditary high steward of England. In accordance with the system initiated by the Conqueror of granting lands to his great barons, on condition of military service, they in their turn granted portions of their earldoms to their several knights on the same terms; and we now find that Turchilestone, falling within the Honour or Earldom of Leicester, became subject to the rules of this Feudal System. In the valuable history of this county, published by Mr. Nichols at the beginning of the nineteenth century, he appears when speaking of Thurlaston to suppose that the Domesday name, "Lestone," is an abbreviation of "Turchilestone"; but in the reproduction of the Leicestershire portion of this ancient record, of which I have spoken, "Lestone" is said to signify *Lea Grange*, which is the name of an old manor situated near Twycross and Norton; and Thurlaston is every time alluded to under the full name "*Turchilestone*." In order to be perfectly accurate, I point out this discrepancy between the two authorities, which agree in all other respects. Supposing that Mr. Nichols was mistaken in this old name, his assertion that Rotbert de Buci, who held *Lestone* at this time, was therefore the owner of the present *Thurlaston*, must be rejected. This is less to be

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regretted, as no further mention of this personage is made in connection with this parish; and we can be certain that about this period the families of Champaine or Campania and of Turvile had possessions here, and were for centuries after of great importance in the county. The full genealogy of these families, and of those of Bouge and Rooe, with whom they were successively connected by marriage, is too extended to be completely given in this narrative, comprising as it does branches whose estates lay in various other places. I have here thought it sufficient to mention the most important members of each branch identified with this parish, either as owners of property therein, or as being interred in the parish church, and in some cases represented by monumental effigies now or formerly existing.

King William died while at war with the King of France, on September 9th, 1087, and was buried at Caen, in Normandy; Hugo de Grantmaisnell, the powerful viscount of Leicester, his faithful adherent, died in 1094, at the Norman Monastery of St. Ebrulph, to which after the storms of state he had retired in his old age. This foreign monastery it will be necessary to mention later on, when speaking of the endowment of Thurlaston Church.

The Conqueror was succeeded in turn by his two younger sons; the one, William Rufus, proving in many respects a worse tyrant to the poor Saxons than his father had been; the other, Henry Beau-clerc, through the influence of his queen, a Saxon princess, assumed a somewhat milder character, and granted them some of their old laws and privileges. This latter king, who after the death of his son in the wreck of the "White Ship," never smiled again, endeavoured to gain the support of the barons in favour of his surviving daughter Maud or Matilda, knowing that the Normans, however, like the French, disliked a female ruler.

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After the death of Henry, his nephew Stephen obtained the crown, but his reign was only a period of civil war between the supporters of his cousin Maud and those of his own party, whose adherence he secured by allowing them every possible liberty for whatever purpose they chose. There being no law or order, many castles were built and much tyranny exercised in and around them; and such a troublous time was it that it was said openly that "*Christ and his saints slept.*" Yet some good men there were who did not lose faith even in that perilous time; and it was at that period that the old Parish Church of Thurleston was built, to be, whatever the changes and chances in the outer world, a Refuge and Abode of Peace to that and many succeeding generations.

In thinking of this great event, which is surely the the most notable in the whole history of Thurlaston, are we not reminded of the words in one of our Hymns (273 A. and M.)—

"O may we love the House of God,
Of peace and joy the blest abode;
O may no angry strife destroy
That sacred peace, that holy joy!
The world without may rage, but we
Will only cling more close to Thee,
With hearts to Thee more wholly given,
More weaned from earth, more fix'd on Heaven."

Is not the material fabric, too, in the solidity with which it has endured the storms of over 750 years, a type of that spiritual Church, of which we believe and sing:—

"Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail."

(391 A. and M.)

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Were there no historical evidence whatever of the date of the old Church, enough remains in its architecture to determine that fact.

It may be well to explain here that it is customary to divide the various styles of architecture that have prevailed in England into five distinct periods; these are the Saxon, the Norman, the Early English, the Decorated, and the Perpendicular, though there are other subdivisions of these periods, marking more particularly the gradual *transition* from one to another. Thus the Norman style of architecture, which alone we need consider here, is again divided into Early, Middle or Enriched and Transition Norman, the whole period representing 134 years. It was therefore during the Middle stage of Norman Architecture that Thurleston Church was founded; and though it would take several years to complete, it was built on the uniform plan of nave, chancel, two aisles, and tower. The solid and massive round pillars of the nave, yet remaining, the peculiar form of the capitals and mouldings, and the tower of but moderate height, yet of wide masonry, with the stone stair-case therein, as well as some other features now destroyed, all bespeak the architecture of the Middle Norman period.

The name of the Founder, who is said to have died in the year 1140, has not, so far as I have at present been able to ascertain, been placed on record; but there can be little doubt, if any, that he was HUGH DE CHAMPAINE OR CAMPANIA, the one whose name appears at the head of the list of that family, who were for a long period lords of Thurleston and Patrons of the Church. The sacred edifice, when fit for the service of God, was dedicated to *All Saints*, and the Parish then formed part of the Diocese of Lincoln, which had been settled as the future centre of the old Mercian See soon after the Conquest, with Robert Bloett for its first Bishop.

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Is it not profitable to recall in imagination the dark November day when the Norman lord and his vassals, both Norman and Saxon, assembled to witness the consecration of the Parish Church, with thankful hearts for the great and lasting blessing then bestowed; and the hearty feasting that would afterwards take place, all the more enjoyed because it had commenced with a holy day; and ought we not to rejoice that it has been possible to revive at least in some of our parishes the true spirit of the Wakes or Feast Week, by making it what it originally was intended to be, in the annual assembly of the parishioners, first for thanksgiving for spiritual blessings enjoyed, and afterwards for mirth, consistent with those responsibilities?

On the death of King Stephen, the crown passed by agreement to Henry II., son of Maud, the first king of the Plantagenet line, and the first to undertake the Conquest of Ireland.

He was a much stronger ruler than Stephen had been, and much of the evil and tyranny existing in the last reign was put an end to, accomplished more easily by the destruction of many castles which had then been built. Whether the old mansion, said by tradition to have existed at *Castle Pit* in this parish, was one of those it is impossible to say; and I much regret that no historical evidence has come to light at present to corroborate the story of one existing there. However that may be, it is certain that the family of *De Champaine*, as lords of Thurleston, had a residence in the neighbourhood, while Normanton during the same period was the residence of the Turvile family. The long controversy between Henry II. and Thomas á Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, concerning the rights of the Church, and the hasty words of the king which led to the murder of the Archbishop before the Altar of his Cathedral, as well as the follies of his private life,

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tarnished the name of this able monarch; of his four sons, Henry, Richard, Geoffrey and John, the second and youngest only survived, and embittered his last days by their rebellious conduct. In 1186, three years before this king's death, a good, wise and learned churchman, who is generally known as Hugh of Grenoble, and had been Prior of Waltham, one who was not afraid to denounce Henry's licentiousness, became the fifth bishop of Lincoln, a position he held till his death in the year 1200. It is important and interesting to know that it was this good prelate who instituted to the Church of Thurleston its first Rector, one who at a time when surnames were uncommon, and only bestowed for some particular reason and meaning, bore the single Norman Christian name of HENRY. The exact year of his appointment is not given, but we know it to have been before the close of the twelfth century, with which the death of this bishop coincides. Those were the days of Richard the Lion-hearted, of Robin Hood and Little John; the days celebrated by Sir Walter Scott in his romances of Ivanhoe and The Talisman; but far more important is it to remember that, during the life of that first Rector of Thurleston, occurred that memorable day in English History, when the old CHURCH OF ENGLAND, represented on that occasion by Stephen Langton Archbishop of Canterbury and several bishops, and supported by the PEERS in the person of Walter Fitz-Walter and his attendant barons, laid the foundation of English freedom, by forcing the tyrant King John to sign Magna Carta. This great Charter, secured to the people by the *Church* and the *Lords* fifty years before the National Parliament was fully established, and before the existence of the House of Commons in any sense, was the first step towards the attainment of that liberty enjoyed alike by all classes at the present time; a sense of freedom giving rise to the proverb that, in

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England, "every man's house is his castle," and of which we are justly proud of expressing in the assertion that "Britons never shall be slaves." Magna Carta was obtained on the 19th of June, 1215; and in 1220 *Henry*, the first Rector of Thurleston, was succeeded in his charge of the parish by *Galfridus de Eketon*, the patron at the time being officially mentioned as Sir Robert de Campania, who was the son of Nicholas and grandson of Hugh de Champaine, or Campania, already spoken of as the founder of the Church.

A list of the Rectors, from the first institution up to the present incumbency, will be found in the Chronological Table; they number twenty-eight, and of some of them special mention will be made as the history proceeds.

In a document called the Matriculus of Bishop Wells, compiled in this same year (1220), we have an account given of the endowment in the following statement:—

"Robert de Campana is patron of Thurleston Church; the rector Henry having been instituted by Hugh, formerly Bishop of Lincoln; and to that Church belong all the tithes (or tenths) of sheaves and flax in the fee (or land) of Robert de Campania; while the similar tithes in those parts coming within the fee of Ralph de Turvile belong to the Church of Croft. A moiety of the small tithes and other produce belonged equally to the two churches. The monks of St. Ebrulph were entitled to an annual pension of two shillings for the tithes of the earldom." (Appendix I., C.)

At this point it may be well to explain that the Monastery of St. Ebrulph, at which Hugh de Grantmaisnell died, was founded before the Conquest by some influential Norman barons, one of whom, *Osmund Bassett*, was the ancestor of a noble family who, in addition to those already alluded to, became of great importance in this part of Leicestershire. Thurstine Basset came

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to England with the Conqueror, and another of the line, Ralph Basset, during the absence of Henry the First in Normandy, had sufficient authority to hold a council of the king's thanes or barons at Hundhoge (that is, Huncote), "and caused execution to be done on many malefactors."

The Bassetts were lords of Sapcote; and one of these, another Ralph lord Bassett held, at the period to which we have arrived, a portion of land adjoining the properties of the Champaines and the Turvilles, where he erected a mansion of considerable size, called after his name, the site and small remnant of which are still known as Bassett House or the Bassett.

The Monks of St. Ebrulph, to whom the grant of a pension or subsidy had been made by the Earl of Leicester, appointed as their agents in England, termed their *proctors*, the Prior and brethren of the Convent of Ware. When the third Rector Henricus Curlevach (1222) was succeeded by Hugh de Stanford, it was the Prior of Ware who appointed him. (Appendix I., D.)

In the year 1240, an enquiry into the state of the country was made, called the Testa de Neville; but it so happens that the manors in this parish are not mentioned in it.

Henry III., who succeeded his father John when quite a boy, and had one of the longest reigns in English History (56 years) would have made a better architect than king; he was improvident, and in his efforts to evade the provisions of Magna Carta with regard to taxation, excited the indignation of his barons, particularly of Simon de Montfort, fifth Earl of Leicester. It was for the purpose of forming a more powerful combination against these encroachments on the liberties of England that this earl, in 1265, issued a writ for a national assembly, formed on the one hand of the barons as the representatives of the present House of Lords, and on the other of two representatives from each county, city,

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and borough, thus bringing into existence for the first time the House of Commons.

One of those who being counted as a baron, because he held sufficient land for that dignity, was Ralph lord Bassett, the founder of Basset House, and he obeyed the writ and summons to the first meeting of the English Parliament.

Civil war ensued between the supporters of the king and those of this powerful Earl of Leicester, who was at length killed at the battle of Evesham.

In 1270, another official enquiry or inquisition of property was held, in which the following description of this parish occurs :—

" Thurleston belongs to the Honour of Leicester; and Robert de Champaine holds in the same four virgates of land with the advowson (or patronage) of the Church. Also, in the township there are two virgates and a half of land held by three vassals. Also, there is one virgate of land in free holding. Also, Robert de Scheffington holds three virgates of land there belonging to the same Honour, in right of his wife, with one windmill in the lordship. Also, there are in free holding nine virgates of land which five free tenants hold of the same Robert. Also, Ralph Turvile holds in the same three virgates of land, held by three free men. And the said Robert de Champaine and Ralph (Turvile) hold the same of the Earl of Leicester, and the Earl of the King. (Appendix I., E.)

The manor of Normanton Turvile was similarly described, Raduphus or Ralph Turvile having therein five virgates of land and two mills, one a wind and the other a water-mill, besides 3½ more virgates in the township held by his vassals, and two virgates held by two freemen. He had also five cottages held by as many cottagers, and a park which was called *Brokensale*. (Appendix I., F.)

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The Robert de Champaine referred to in this record was no doubt the second bearing the name of Robert, there being four of the family in succession who were so called. Ralph Turvile was the first of his family who came into prominence in this county, he being a great benefactor to the Abbey of Leicester. Robert de Scheffington had only a temporary holding in the neighbourhood. It is not easy to define the boundaries of the parish of this period, nor of the several estates it comprised. All these were eventually merged in the property of the Turviles, which became so extensive as to take portions of the adjoining parishes of Peckleton and Croft; for as it has already been said, the tithes on the *Turvile* property, as distinguished from that of the *De Champagnes* belonged to the Church of Croft. Thus in another inquisition made shortly after this, called the *Itinerary* of 1280, Thurleston, Peckleton and Normanton answered collectively as one *vill*, the Norman term corresponding in some sense with the Saxon *ton*, but applied indefinitely to a parish or to a group of distinct townships. The hunting park of the Turviles, spoken of above as *Brokensale*, was afterwards called *Brakenholme*, and is now the site of the farm buildings known as *Bracknells*, a name signifying its position near the adjoining brook or rivulet. There is no evidence of there ever having been any buildings thereon before the erection of the modern ones now standing. Keeping in mind the fact of the indefinite boundaries, it is not impossible that the mills in close proximity to the old Turvile estate, called the Smock Mill and Huncote Mill, may be at least the successors of the two mills (wind and water) mentioned in the record.

In 1296, it was found by another official enquiry that Robert de Champaine and *Nicholas* de Turvile were the owners of these manors, and that they held them in fee

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of the Honour of Leicester respectively by the service of two parts of a knight's fee.

The quantities and measurements used in connection with this Feudal System of military service are not easy to explain, as they do not in all cases specify a definite amount either of land or money; but a general view of them may now be useful.

The term *virgate* so often used is variously estimated as representing from twenty even to sixty acres, and may be taken as usually amounting to forty; a hide of land was at least one hundred and sometimes as much as one hundred and twenty acres. Therefore a knight's fee, containing five hides of land, would as a rule comprise from five hundred to six hundred acres, but as there was a variation in quantity according to the quality of the soil and other conditions, its value may be reckoned as £20 a year in the money value of the time we are now alluding to, representing several times that amount in our present finance. He who possessed 13⅓ knights' fees was up to the time of the first Parliament accounted a baron, and this qualification enabled Ralph Bassett, lord of Sapcote, whom I have already spoken of, to attend that assembly as a baron or peer. Each great baron allotted to his knights a certain portion of his estate in knight's fees; the rest he kept partly to be rented by the freemen in farms, the tenants of which were in the end called *yeomen*, and partly to be farmed for his own benefit by his *vassals*. Let it not be supposed that this vassalage was nothing but a state of absolute slavery and tyranny! the dependents of the barons and knights often honoured and loved their lord as one of noble blood, for whose sake they would willingly endure and die with a devotion they would never have given of free will to an upstart; and if any great man chanced to prove a selfish tyrant, our Mother Church, ever the friend of the poor and lowly, stepped in, and under

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threat of withdrawing his spiritual advantages, forced him to exercise the duties of humanity.

The Feudal terms are too numerous to be fully explained here, and require as much study as the legal terms of more recent times. We often find, however, that the word *seised* is used in connection with the death of a landowner; this expression simply means that the person spoken of *owned* or was the *possessor* of the estate in question; *seisin* signifying the possession and right of profit arising therefrom.

Acknowledgment of the responsibilities attached to the possession of the feudal estates was made at various times, the most particular one being *scutage*, which was a sort of exemption fee from the obligation to perform military service; and we find that while certain members of the De Champaine and Turvile families bore the title of knight, then bestowed only for military success, others of them ranked only as gentlemen, to whom the term *armiger* was applied, denoting not the rank of a soldier carrying certain weapons of war, but as having the right by birth of using the *coat of arms* or armorial bearings adopted by their ancestors. By remembering this distinction, it will be more easy to determine which of the above were warriors and which others were exempt from service in war by paying *scutage* to the Earl of Leicester.

The feeble rule of Henry the Third was replaced by that of his son Edward I., a great warrior, who ruled England with justice; but whose cruelty towards the Welsh and Scotch was bitterly resented by those races, the rights of the latter being successively taken up and bravely fought for by the heroes Wallace and Bruce.

The earldom of Leicester had now passed to Edmund Earl of Lancaster, brother of the king, and in an inquisition made in 1297 it was reported that this nobleman held divers lands at Thurleston and Normanton, which

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were again held of him by Ralph Turvile already mentioned, besides other lands at Croft and other places, amounting in all to 4½ knights' fees (Appendix I., F).

We now come to the close of the thirteenth century, and to a time when another aspect of the old Parish Church comes into consideration, in the monumental effigies of distinguished persons, some of which are still to be seen in good preservation, others of which only a mutilated portion remains, while some rich in design and detail have entirely disappeared. It was the custom in the age of which we are speaking to place effigies in the churches representing those buried on or near the site they held; and from the sculptured likeness of the person, with the armour or dress they wore, if carefully and correctly portrayed, it is often possible to form a pretty correct idea of the appearance of the living originals and of the costume of their particular times. Often, too, some pious ancestor, believing in the efficacy of the church's mission on behalf of the souls of men, in consideration of gifts made to the priest of the parish either for his own personal use or for the better adornment of the sacred edifice, asked that the welfare of his own soul and those of his descendants should ever be remembered in the prayers offered there; and in some instances, a portion of the building was set apart as a special resting place for those whose lives had been and would be so closely connected with the history of the place. Such was the case in this church, where early in the fourteenth century a portion of the north aisle at its east end was set apart as the peculiar burial place of the Turviles and other distinguished people, thereafter known as the Turvile Chantry; and long after, when in times of neglect and decay, it had in the memory of people still living become a scene of awe, it was always spoken of as the *Dark Chancel.*

The plan I have drawn of the East end of the North

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Aisle, occupying the site of this ancient burying place, shows as far as possible the position of each remaining tomb and the remnants of some formerly standing. It must, however, be remembered that in the alterations and restorations of the Church which have taken place, some of them were necessarily changed in situation and are not directly over the remains of the persons to whose memory they were erected. In the Appendix will also be found the full inscriptions as they originally appeared, fragments of which of more or less distinctness may still in some cases be traced.

Thirty-one years ago, when the Leicestershire Archæological Society met at Market Harborough, a paper was read by Mr. M. H. Bloxam, F.S.A., on the "Sepulchral Monuments of the County," and an interesting reference was made by him to some of the monuments in Thurlaston Church; but while he gave a very full commentary on two of them, it is surprising that the most imposing of all, which has always been the subject of much enquiry, was not mentioned in his description; and the only cause for the omission must have been the doubt that has existed with regard to its date in the absence of any known inscription. His remarks, nevertheless, on those he ventured to describe, are very exhaustive, and some extracts may be given.

The first on the list of these effigies is the one under the arch in the North Wall. This was the position usually given to the Founder of the Chantry, and I must here mention that a mistake is sometimes made when this figure is supposed to represent the Founder of the Church itself. The Church, both historically and architecturally, belongs to the twelfth century; and this is a figure of the fourteenth. As by carefully comparing dates and circumstances we may reasonably fix on *Hugh de* Champaine as the Founder of the Church; so in this other case, by a similar comparison, we can with equal reason regard

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Radulphus or *Ralph de Turvile*, the benefactor to Leicester Abbey, as the Founder of this Chantry, or family Burial-place, particularly as one of his immediate descendants is interred close by. The figure of this founder, lying under the *ogee-shaped* arch (that is, an arch formed in the fashion of an S), was described by Mr. Bloxam as that of a figure of the fourteenth century, bare-headed, with a fillet round the head, clad in a tunic belted above the waist, and extending to the knees ; the lower parts of the legs are gone, but the cross-legged attitude is very apparent, a most singular instance, there being only one other example in the knowledge of the writer of a civilian being thus represented, that other being in Much Marcle Church, Herefordshire. The feet rest against a lion, and the hands are joined together on the breast. Mr. Bloxam considered this to be an effigy of one of the "*cruce signati*, or those who contributed in money to pilgrimages made to the Holy Land." He also regretted that the material, a kind of blue lias, like the effigies at Peckleton, was of so perishable a kind that the figure was not so perfect as could be wished at the time of his description. A fragment of an inscription on this effigy seems to have been remaining at the beginning of the nineteenth century, but too much worn to be understood. It should be here noticed that a similar arch to the one in question formerly adjoined it on the east side, where the window of the Choir Vestry now stands; it had a small window above it.

The warlike Edward I. was succeeded by his son Edward II., who in his infancy had been made the first Prince of Wales, but who grew up indolent and altogether too weak-spirited to continue his father's policy, and meeting with a dreadful death at Berkeley Castle in 1327. His son Edward III. made the name of England famous by his many victories, particularly in his war with France, and he too had a long reign of fifty years.

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Radulphus (or Ralph) Turvile had two sons; the elder, spoken of as Sir Richard Turvile of Normanton Turvile, was one of the knights serving in the wars of the first Edward; whether he died at home or abroad in the battlefield we are not told, and there is no mention of his being buried in this Church, though of three others bearing the same Christian name, two found a resting-place here. The younger son *Hugo or Hugh de Turvile* inherited at least a portion of the family estates both in Thurleston, Normanton, and Croft.

In the year of Edward III.'s accession (1327), a tax specially levied for the expenses of the wars then carried on was required, under the name of the *Lay Subsidy*, and a Roll of those persons in each manor who were called upon to pay this subsidy is still in existence in the Registry at Lincoln, the full list of names in Thurleston and Normanton being here given. It is as follows:—

The Earliest Lay Subsidy Roll, 1327.

Hundr^{d} de Guthlaxton.

Normanton t'uill'	s. d.	Thurleston.	s. d.
Hug' T'uill	ij	Rob'to de Campania	v vj
Ald ,,	ij	Joh'ne Fabr'	xij
Will'mo Gymyl	iiij-vj	Joh'ne de Merston	ij vj
Will'mo in the Whelenes	vj	Will'mo T'uill	iij
Rob'to clico	xvj	Thomas Osberne	iij vj
Henr' Freman	vj	Henr' ad ecc'am	vj
Rod'o de Walde	xiij ò	Joh'ne Bercar	ij
Ric'o Alewey	,,	Henr' Fox	iiij
Will'mo Deneneys	iij	Adam Martyn	xxiij
Andrea Crisp	ij	Galfr'o Petyt	ix
Galfr'o Alwey	ix	Joh'ne Shemsby	ix
		Will'mo Sabyn	xv
Sm'xix p'b'.		Henry Martin	iij

This Roll, which is an extract from the full Leicestershire Record of the time, contains many abbreviations,

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and the numerals shewing the amount in shillings and pence are in the old fashion of Roman letters, the j used instead of *i* to conclude the units. Thus Hugh Turvile was assessed at two shillings, and Robert de Campania at five shillings and sixpence.

It will be seen that few names familiar in this parish appear in this ancient roll, shewing the entire change that has taken place in this respect since that time; and the money value must also be reckoned as three times as much as that of our own age.

By a Charter dated May 19th, 1337, Edward III. granted to Hugh de Turvile and his heirs, as also to Robert de Champeyne and his heirs, the right of free warren in their demesne lands in the manors of Thurleston, Normanton, and Croft, this liberty being secured to them by letters patent, and afterwards confirmed.

Hugh Turvile was one of the members of Parliament in 1347, the meeting of which was at New Sarum or Salisbury, and at Winchester. He, and his wife who survived him two years, are buried in this church, their effigies being on the right side of the figure representing the founder of the Chantry. On the outside one, the Latin inscription commencing near the right shoulder and running down the right side only, is still sufficiently legible to be traced, and informs us that "*Here lies Hugh Turvile, who died on the Feast of Saint Denis, 1347.*" The Festival of Saint Denis (the Patron Saint of France) is on the 9th of October, this name being the French form of the Latin *Dionysius*. This effigy was also described by Mr. Bloxam as a figure of the fourteenth century, bare-headed, the capucium or hood folded over the breast and shoulders. The body habit consists of a long super-tunic or side-gown, with long sleeves reaching to the elbows, and oval shaped slits or pocket holes on the sides, disclosing the inner tunic, coat or vest, which was belted round. From beneath the sleeves of the super-

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tunic appear the close-fitting sleeves of the tunic. The hands repose on the breast, holding between them a heart; at the feet is a mutilated animal, perhaps a dog. The dress of this worthy would, in the opinion of Mr. Bloxam, come under the description sometimes found in ancient wills. "Tunica et super-tunica cum caputio" (coat or vest and cloak with hood). The material of this figure is a warm durable stone, like that of Mansfield Woodhouse.

On the companion effigy, the inscription in Norman French, commencing near the left shoulder, and running straight on to conclude near the right one, is also capable of being read without much difficulty, and tells us that "*Here lies Agnes Turvylle, who died the seventh day of July in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand three hundred and forty nine,—on whose soul may God have mercy.*"

The eldest son of Sir Richard Turvile, knight, was like his grandfather named *Ralph*, and we find that when in 1346 the king's eldest son, so well known as the Black Prince, was knighted, the usual *aid* or special levy for the accompanying expenses was made; and that John de Charnells, *Ralph Turvile*, and others their free tenants, for this knighting of Edward of Woodstock, were assessed thirty shillings for three quarters of one knight's fee in Thurleston, Croft, and Normanton, parcel of the Honour of Leicester.

This Ralph Turvile had younger brothers, one of whom is specially mentioned as *Adam Turvile* of *Thurleston*. John de Charnells had only a temporary holding in the neighbourhood, like Robert de Scheffington, already mentioned. The name of Ralph Turvile appears in an official list of *esquires* in the time of the first Edwards, that rank being a definite one, immediately below that of knight, the title not being otherwise bestowed and applied in the ambiguous way it is now.

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The Earldom of Leicester had been held by the Plantagenet Earls of Lancaster since the death of Simon de Montfort, being successively in the hands of Edmund, younger brother of Edward I. (called Crouchback), of his sons Thomas and Henry, and of the son of the last-named, another Henry, who was called Grismond, and assumed the title of *Duke*. As part of the ancient Duchy of Lancaster a Court of nine manors was held in this neighbourhood, the Court-leet or Sessions of the time being at Earl Shilton.

The names of the manors forming this Court, alphabetically given, were Blaby, Croft, Countesthorpe, Earl Shilton, Frolesworth, Normanton Turvile, Sapcote, Thurleston, and Whetstone.

In 1361, it was found that Henry Plantagenet, *Duke* of Lancaster, died seised (that is, was the possessor) of one knight's fee in Thurleston, Normanton, Croft, and Sutton, which Robert Champaine then held; also, in one other knight's fee in Normanton, Thurleston, and Croft, which Hugh Turvile then held. This Robert Champaine was probably the fourth Robert of the family; and as Hugh Turvile, whose effigy has been described, had been dead some years, the name applies either to the property he *had* possessed, or to another Hugh Turvile, grandson of Ralph, and son of another Richard, and whose mother was the daughter and sole heiress of Sir Wm. Flamvile of Aston Flamvile, the Turviles thus acquiring their Aston Flamvile Estate.

In 1377 ended the long reign of Edward III., for the most part a glorious one, but saddened in its last years by the falling off of the king's private character and by family intrigues. His noble son the Black Prince having died the year before, the crown descended to the son of that warrior, Richard II., during whose minority much discontent prevailed, and whose own qualities

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were not of a kind to cope with the difficulties and troubles which accumulated during his rule.

It was about this time that by a succession of marriages the family of De *Champaine* became connected with that of *Bouge*, and the family of *Bouge* with that of *Turvile*. Sir William Champaine, knight, lord of Thurleston, is the last of his name in the genealogy of the line, and the seventh in direct descent from Hugh de Champaine, to whom I have assigned the founding of the Church.

Edmund Bouge, the first of the family to obtain possessions here, was the sixth in descent from Ralph Bouge of Bingham in the county of Nottingham, his four intermediate ancestors, each bearing the name of Geoffrey Bouge of Leke, in the county of Northampton. It was, however, in virtue of his being also the seventh in descent from Margaret the sister and co-heir of Sir William Champaine, that Edmund Bouge became lord of Thurleston, in which position he was followed by his only son *Baldwin Bouge*.

It is also during the reign of Richard II. that the old manor of New-Hall Park comes into notice, before which no mention is made of it in any way. In 1391, it was found in the official enquiry then made that Robert de Swillington, at the time of his death, held the moiety of the manor of New Hall of the Duke of Lancaster by the service of nine shillings and threepence. This moiety (or half) and the advowson had, for some reason not altogether clear, been granted to him by Robert Grethed, Rector, of Ekynton, three years before.

The Duke of Lancaster here spoken of was John of Gaunt, the fourth son of Edward III. and uncle of the present king Richard. He had acquired the title by his marriage with Blanche, the daughter and heiress of Henry Grismond the first Duke, and with it consequently the earldom of Leicester. He had been at least a secret

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opponent, if not an open one, of his brother the Black Prince, but as a warrior and statesman was spoken of (in the words of Shakespeare) as "time-honoured Lancaster."

As the family of the Turviles increased, their property also became more extensive, and in 1398 we find that "Richard Tourvile" of Normanton Tourvile (that is, the one who had married the daughter of Sir William Flamvile,) executed a deed by which he did enfeoff or grant right of tenure to Simon Bache, clerk, William Danet, William Palmer, Geffry Crisp, chaplain, and Henry Tourvile, in his manors of Normanton Tourvile, Walton-on-the-Woulds, Thurleston, and Woodhouse; appointing trustees, the witnesses, five in number, including "Robert Moton of Peckleton." The son of this Richard Turvile or Tourvile, Hugo, and his grandson Nicholas, who died without children, ended the line of the elder branch; Richard, however, had a younger brother, William Turvile of *Thurleston*, on whose son Richard, the fourth Turvile so named, the family honours and the chief of the estates, including Normanton, now devolved. This fourth Richard Turvile was the *first* husband of Margaret, sister and sole heiress of *Baldwin Bouge*, whose only son *Baldwin* did not survive him. In view of the prospective rights he had acquired by this marriage, Richard Turvile built in the extensive park called New Hall bordering on the chace, or Leicester Forest, a new mansion, which he conveyed for jointure to his wife Margaret. This *new hall*, now the old mansion of the Turviles in what is still known as New Hall Park, is thus about five hundred years old. Mr. Nichols in his history describes it as being "surrounded (as well as the garden, about half an acre,) by a broad deep moat, over which there is a stone bridge, formerly no doubt a drawbridge; some old stone circular chimneys, now covered and grown over with ivy, forming a venerable and

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romantic view. The foundations of the whole building are of freestone, and the super-structure half timber and half plaster," and he concludes by a comment on the "rude simplicity of our fore-fathers; who could be happy in less sumptious buildings."

An inspection of the old house, even at the present day, is interesting, and one can well imagine that while the western portion of the long building was often the scene of comparative comfort, with occasional feasting and mirth, the ruder apartments at the east end might well afford a place of concealment, either for the safety of a fugitive or secure detention of a prisoner, in the troublous times when civil war distressed our land.

In 1399, Henry Bolinbroke, son of John of Gaunt, returned from a long exile, and claiming first his father's inheritance as Duke of Lancaster, and afterwards the crown of England, succeeded by his bold ambition and greater genius in bringing about his cousin's resignation of the throne. The manner of Richard II.'s death, whether natural or by murder, has always been a mystery, but his cousin succeeded to the throne as Henry IV., and became the first king of the House of Lancaster. The Dukedom of Lancaster, and with it the Earldom of Leicester, became in consequence an honour attached to the throne for the time being, and the manors pertaining to the earldom were therefore once more held direct from the king. Thus at the close of the fourteenth century there were four distinct manors connected with this parish, those of Thurleston, Normanton Turvile, New Hall, and Bassett House. Baldwin Bouge, representing the rights of the old De Champaines, was lord of Thurleston and New Halle, Richard Turvile of Normanton, and the lords Basset of Sapcote still the owners of the manor of Basset House. It was, however, found that in 1427, Joan, wife of Roger de Swillington, knight, still having a life interest in the manor of Newe halle died *seised*

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of thirty-three shillings and fourpence free rent to be received out of the said manor by the hands of the tenants; and in 1433, Baldwin Bouge re-leased (or granted a renewal of lease) in all his lands and tenements to Thomas Crull and other tenants, both in Thurleston, New Hall, and Normanton Turville, this act in the last-named case being probably on behalf of his sister Margaret, the widow of Richard Turvile, who had died in 1414. This Richard Turvile, the founder of the mansion of New Hall, was buried in Thurleston Church. In my plan of the Chantry, the figure *4* shows the segment of alabaster still to be seen, which formed the bottom right hand corner of the slab surmounting the large altar tomb placed to his memory. The beginning and end of the Latin inscription—*Hic jacet — eus Amen*, may still be traced; and the fore-paws of the animal on which the feet of the figure rested are faintly visible. A sketch of the whole figure and inscription will also be found in the Appendix, by which we learn that "Here lies Richard Turvile, *Armiger*, son of William Turvile, who died the first day ——— in the year of our Lord, 1414," concluding with the usual prayer for the soul of the deceased.

This was the year following the accession of Henry V., known while Prince of Wales as *Madcap Harry*, but whose future career, especially his victory at Agincourt in 1415, and other military deeds in France, have made his name famous. It was at this time that the Alien or foreign monasteries were supressed, St. Ebrulph among the number. The Priory of Ware, whose brethren acted as the proctors or agents for the Norman monastery of St. Ebrulph in their English affairs, was given by king Henry to the Carthusian Monks of the Priory of Shene (or Richmond), in virtue of which, and their connection with the endowment of Thurleston Church, the Prior and Convent of Shene obtained for the time being the patronage also, and in 1425 appointed Richard Ulveston

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as *chaplain* to this Church. For one hundred and nine years this alienation of the patronage from the parish itself continued, until under other changes taking place in the history of the old Church of England, it reverted to the Turvile family as representing the first patrons.

Henry V. died at an early age, and was succeeded by his son Henry VI., who was then only nine months old; and who, in spite of a sweet disposition and saintly character, or perhaps on account of them, had one of the most troublous lives and reigns in the history of our country. *Baldwin Bouge* attended the Meeting of Parliament, as a County Member, at Leicester, in the fourth year of Henry VI.'s reign.

He died in 1435, and was also buried in this Church. A large altar tomb was erected to his memory in the middle of the Chantry, and was standing when Mr. Nichols published his history, but no distinct trace of it remains. The Latin inscription given with the sketch in the Appendix states that *Here lies Baldwin Bouge, armiger, who died —— in the month of August, in the year of Our Lord 1435* (ending with the usual petition for mercy). It is interesting to note that an additional memorial of this person, who in his lineage was a representative of several old families, including those of De Champaine, Foucher, Bouge, De Soulney, and Hastings, existed for well nigh four centuries in a South Window of the Chancel, being the figure of a man kneeling, with a sword at his side; upon whose cloak and other garments his coat of arms was drawn; he was supposed to be saying "*Fili dei, miserere mei*" (Son of God, have mercy upon me), and underneath the picture was the inscription in Latin, "Pray for the soul of Baldwin Bouge, lord of this village." In later years, we are told, only the middle portion of the inscription remained, the glass before and behind being broken down. Some idea of the picture and letters may be gained by the sketch given.

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We may well suppose that his sister and heiress, Margaret Bouge (now Turvile) was a lady not devoid of courage, for after the death of her husband Richard Turvile, she again married, secondly Reginald Moton, son of Sir Robert Moton of Peckleton, and thirdly Sir Thomas Everingham, knight.

We have now come to that sad period of English History, known as the Wars of the Roses, the civil war arising out of the rival claims of the two Plantagenet branches, the Houses of Lancaster and York. During the reigns of the first Lancastrian kings, Henry the Fourth and Fifth, the claims of the York family, too complicated to be given in detail, were allowed to rest; but when, during the minority of Henry the Sixth, his father's victories in France were reversed by the native troops under Joan of Arc, the Maid of Orleans, and when in later years the king's mild disposition allowed the government to fall into the hands of his haughty Queen, Margaret of Anjou and other hated counsellors, those claims were revived by Richard Duke of York, who at length took up arms to obtain the throne. Several battles were fought with varying success, in one of which the Duke of York was slain ; but his cause still lived in the persons of his surviving sons, Edward, George, and Richard, the three Dukes of York, Clarence, and Gloucester. At length, in 1461, a decisive battle took place at Towton in Yorkshire, when, by the powerful assistance of the Earl of Warwick, afterwards called the King-maker, the Yorkists gained the victory, and Edward the eldest brother became the first King of the House of York by the title of Edward IV. The old king Henry was imprisoned in the Tower of London, and when Edward's first parliament met in November of the same year, they passed a long and sweeping bill of attainder, by which almost every man who had distinguished himself in the cause of Lancaster was disgraced as guilty of

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treason. It was only natural that the lords of the Thurleston manors, holding their lands from the Lancastrian family, should espouse their cause; and we find that Sir Robert Everingham of New Hall was attainted for taking part in the battle of Towton-field. This knight was probably a younger brother of Sir Thomas Everingham, the third husband of Margaret Bouge, who was unlikely to have had a son old enough for such an adventure; for the second husband, Reginald Moton had died in 1445, *seised* (or possessed) of the manor of Thurleston in right of Margaret his wife. In 1474, it was found that Margaret (wife of Thomas Everingham, knight,) died seised of the manor of Thurleston called New-hall, held of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster, and that John Turvile her grandson was next heir. We have no evidence of the resting place of this lady, whose life must have been somewhat adventurous; her son Wm. Turvile had died twenty years before her, and was buried here; a large altar tomb, no longer remaining, was placed over the remains of himself and his wife; the Latin inscription (see Appendix) signifying: "Here lies William Turvile (armiger), who died ——— day of the month — in the year of our Lord 1457, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Fouleshurst (armiger), who died the 16th day of October, 1476 (to whose souls may God be propitious. Amen.)

A flat stone under an arch on the north side, probably the second arch already alluded to, was placed to the memory of Anne Moton, daughter of Reginald and Margaret Moton, and widow of William Grimesley, she dying 1477, but no trace of it remains.

Edward IV., in spite of his licentiousness, was a popular king; and although the king-maker, whom he had deeply wronged, for a brief period replaced Henry VI. on the throne, the Battle of Barnet in which that powerful baron was killed, decided and secured the influence of

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the York family, and Edward returning from a necessary exile, reigned till his death in 1483. Gunpowder had been some time in use in English warfare; but much of the success of the various battles fought by our countrymen had hitherto been owing to the skill of the English archers, at least since the days of Robin Hood. Soon after his accession, Edward IV. issued a decree that every Englishman should possess a bow of his own height, with which he should practice on every holiday on penalty of losing "one halfpenny and some honour"; every parish, therefore, had a fixed practice-ground; and the enclosure through which the footpath now passes from Thurlaston to Normanton Hall, was the spot selected for the resort of the village bowmen, when dressed in their holiday suits they assembled to try their skill at the Archery Butt, the ground still being known by the name of the *Butt Nook*.

On the death of Edward IV., his youngest brother, Richard of Gloucester, having already brought about the death of George of Clarence and others either by secret treachery or open murder, even as it is generally supposed, including the old King Henry and his son, now completed his course of intrigue by having his nephews Edward V. and his brother Richard of York smothered in the Tower of London. He then, having thus removed all obstacles, ascended the throne himself as Richard III. His reign lasted only a little over two years, for his confederates, disgusted at last with his relentless character, invited Henry Earl of Richmond to come from his retreat in Brittany to try his fortune for the throne, he being connected with the House of Lancaster by his descent from Owen Tudor, the Welsh gentleman who married the widow of Henry V. The last battle of the War of the Roses was fought in this county.

Richard having arrived at Leicester from Nottingham, after sleeping at the Blue Boar Inn, set out to meet his

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opponent, who had landed at Milford Haven, and was already advancing to the fray. The course of the king's march was across the Fosse Road to the Frith, and so on past a corner of Leicester Forest, over the Farm now called *the Oaks*, and thence in a straight line by Peckleton and Kirkby Mallory. Not however being certain of the whereabouts of his enemy's camp, his march, or that of a portion of his troops, seems to have deviated from the proposed course, and some of his officers at least slept one night in Elmesthorpe Church. The battle of Bosworth Field, fought on the elevated ground in the neighbourhood of Bosworth, Shenton, Stoke Golding, Dadlington, and Sutton Cheney, on the 22nd of August, 1485, ended in the death of Richard; his crown, found on the rising ground near Stoke Church, now called Crown Hill, was placed on the head of Richmond, who was at once proclaimed Henry VII., and became the first sovereign of the House of Tudor. The dead body of Richard was taken back to Leicester, and buried in the Church of the Grey Friars; but, fifty years after, when this church was ruinated, his bones were thrown over the bridge, now called Bow Bridge, near which is an inscription informing us that "Near this spot lie the remains of Richard III., the last of the Plantagenet kings."

As on the battlefield itself, near Ambien Hill, *Dicken's Nook* and *Dicken's Well* are memorials of the defeated King, so in this Parish *Dick's Hill* may form a suitable reminiscence of the march of his troops from Leicester to the scene of the fight.

Henry VII. united the interests of the Red Rose of Lancaster with those of the White Rose of York by his marriage with Edward IV.'s daughter Elizabeth; and, in spite of the rebellions of the imposters Lambert Simnel and Perkin Warbeck, succeeded in establishing himself on the throne. He was crafty and avaricious, and enriched himself at the expense of others, and entirely by

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his efforts in this direction broke the power of the few feudal barons who survived the war.

At the end of the fifteenth century, John Turvile was the sole representative and possessor of the family estates in the three manors of Thurleston, Normanton, and New Hall, which, at the time of his death in 1509, it was found he held of the king as of his Honour of Leicester. He, with his wife Katharine (daughter of Sir Thomas Staunton of Sutton Bonnington in the county of Northampton), is depicted on the large alabaster monument in the North Aisle, which has for so long been the subject of enquiry and interest.

The village tradition which has so long been connected with this tomb, on account of its peculiar character, I have thought better to mention under a separate heading in the Appendix, particularly as, from the absence of any direct proof, I have been unable to place it here as a matter of authentic history. (Appendix I., Q.)

Independently of this, however, the tomb itself, judging from the description given of it by the various historians who have mentioned it, deserves particular notice. It is spoken of in the Burton MS. as a "very faire" raised monument, with a proportion cut in alabaster, of John Turvile, who died 1509; and it is described by Nichols as a tomb which was formerly extremely splendid, with twelve shields of arms painted on the sides;—on the top two cumbent figures, the man in a kind of half armour with a gorget; the lady's cap appearing nearly like a coronet, with her veil flowing gracefully open. The colouring has been for a long time worn off; and if ever it bore any inscription, that also has too long disappeared for any record to have been kept of the words. This monument, whether now standing in its original position or not, was, in the course of changes made some hundred years ago in the arrangement of the church interior, removed into the chancel, where it stood a very short

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distance from the front of the present organ. This position, under the dimensions and arrangement of the chancel at that time, was called the *North side of the Communion Table*, and it was while standing there that Mr. Nichols' description was applied to it. It was not returned to the *chantry* until nearly fifty years ago, within the memory of persons still living. It may be well to call attention to its appearance at the present time, in the absence of any recent archæological treatise on the subject. (I have already said that Mr. Bloxam, who so fully described the older remaining monuments, for some reason omitted all mention of this one.)

A perusal of any good work on armour and costume will help to show that the warrior appears in a sort of half-armour, corresponding to the undress uniform of modern days. He wears the gorget, the peculiar SS collar and chain, one of the badges of the House of Lancaster, and his head rests upon his helm, which when complete was probably surmounted by his crest. The hands, enclosed in close gauntlets of the Tudor period, are placed in the attitude of prayer; and the feet, as in most effigies of the kind, are resting on the body of a dog.

The whole equipment is such as might be used by any soldier of that particular rank between the battles of Bosworth and Flodden Field. The costume of the lady is (perhaps naturally) not so easily to be defined. The most noticeable part is the head-dress, which mostly belonged to a period somewhat earlier, but which might be retained by ladies in remote districts unaccustomed to the more changeable fashions of the Court and metropolis.

Nine only of the twelve shields of arms are now visible—six on the right hand side of the tomb and three at the head; if the remaining three were formerly at the foot, the slab on which they were carved has been replaced by another, the present one, on close

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examination, not appearing to be a portion of the original structure. These shields, each borne by an attendant, under a canopy, have lost all the gilding which formerly adorned them, and no trace of such beauty is now left to them. Considering the changes and chances to which it has been subject, this monument is, nevertheless, in tolerably good condition, and is the only specimen left of the altar tombs which formerly stood in the Chantry.

In 1509, Henry VIII., the second son of Henry VII., ascended the throne, and married the widow of his elder brother Arthur, Katharine of Arragon. From being a brave, accomplished and popular young king, he gradually developed into a selfish and bloodthirsty tyrant; his reign was not only conspicuous for the selfish cruelty which he exhibited towards the six queens whom he successively made partners of his domestic life, but also for the part he played in bringing about the crisis of that change in the affairs of the Church which had been gradually taking place since John Wycliffe died at Lutterworth one hundred and twenty-five years before, and which is generally called the *Reformation*.

We find that by this time the patronage of Thurleston Church was in the hands of the Turviles, and the Rector, Elias Turvile, was one of that family; though, as his name does not appear in the family list, it is not possible to say what relationship he bore to the lord of the manor. From some documents relating to Leicestershire still preserved in the Registry at Lincoln, we learn that on the ninth day of April, 1510, a Visitation for the Rural Deanery of Guthlaxton was held by the Archdeacon of Leicester, in the Parish Church of Thurleston, not only for the usual investigation into the state of the church fabric and services, but also for maintaining and administering that "*godly discipline*" spoken of in the preface to our Commination Service, by which "at the

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beginning of Lent, such persons as stood convicted of notorious sin were put to open penance"; for on this occasion a man named Thomas Belton, residing at Croft, being accused by the Revd. Elias Turvile and two parish officers (or wardens), John Bate and Robert Colle, of a heinous offence against the law of God, was required to show his penitence according to customary form before the whole congregation previous to his being again admitted to the privileges of the Church. At the same time it was ordered that the gate of the churchyard, being out of repair, should be put in order before the next Feast of Ascension under a penalty of three shillings and fourpence; also that William Howes, William Syde, John Wykes, John Smythe, William How, John Thourton, and John ffreman should make good all dues owing by them to the said Parish Church of Thurleston before the same festival, under a fine of six shillings and eightpence.

Sir William Turvile, third son of John Turvile, survived his father, and succeeded to the family estates not only of Normanton, Thurleston, and New Hall, but also of Aston Flamvile. He had a licence from the king to enlarge the park of New Hall, taking in a large portion of the adjoining forest land.

In 1513 was fought the battle of Flodden Field, between the English forces and the Scotch under James IV.; in which the latter was slain, and the flower of his army destroyed. This event is not only interesting on account of the romantic story of it in Sir Walter Scott's *Marmion*, but an indirect interest at least is attached to it because one of those who died at Flodden was *Roger Roe*, one of the ancestors of the Rooe family, who afterwards possessed the Normanton estate.

Whatever may be the private opinion of various persons concerning the changes in the Church government, sanctioned and promoted by Henry VIII., it

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must be admitted by all right-thinking persons, that the king's conduct throughout was inconsistent, and his motives clearly selfish. When an ecclesiastical survey was ordered by him, for the purpose of enquiring into the condition of the religious houses or *Monasteries*, on the plea that they had become the homes of luxury and vice, rather than of religion and learning, it was Sir William Turvile of Normanton, Thurleston, New Hall, and Aston Flamvile who, as ecclesiastical commissioner, had in 1534 to carry out the investigation in the county of Leicester. Whether these old religious houses needed reform or not may be left out of the question: certain it is that Henry VIII. coveted their revenues for himself and his greedy courtiers; and under the pretence of putting down abuses much sacrilege was committed by the commissioners and their subordinates. The state of any man's mind and conscience was not to be envied who could either take part or acquiesce in the destruction of so much of the beautiful work done by our forefathers; and the havoc then brought about cannot be better described than in the words of the seventy-fourth Psalm, particularly verses 4 to 9, which may be read with profit in relation to the action of the king and his commissioners, as also in connection with the desecration of holy things by the Puritans in the next century, and to any period, past, present, or future, when, under the plea of doing God service, the pious gifts and works of holy men are treated with mockery and irreverence. (Appendix I., L.)

As in the case of modern plans for the re-adjustment of Church revenues, a very plausible scheme for a large increase of their usefulness by the creation of several new dioceses was set forth; but the promise was not kept; and that process of dis-endowment may well be taken as a type of what any future one may be; for as a matter of fact, the bulk of the revenues went into the

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pockets of the king and his friends, and only six new dioceses were formed, *Peterborough* being one of them. With an apparent feeling of compunction for his treatment of Katharine of Arragon, who was buried there, Henry spared the old Abbey of Peterborough (originally called Medehampstead) as a splendid monument to her memory; and it became the Cathedral of the new diocese of Peterborough; John Chamber, the last Abbot, becoming the first bishop in 1541. The Archdeaconry of Leicester, however, continued to form part of the old Diocese of Lincoln until about sixty years ago; so that we still find some accounts of Thurleston in the records of the older See. The value of the Rectory was at this time said to be £10. The son of Sir William Turvile, John Turvile of Thurleston and New Hall was both patron and rector, but before his death appointed Revd. Edward Robynson to the living, who is described as a learned priest, resident and hospitable, though unmarried—having two benefices, but preaching in his cure—not licensed, but authorized by law. The second son of the John Turvile, just mentioned, was Richard Turvile, the fifth and last Richard, of Thurleston and Normanton. He died in 1564, his wife surviving him twenty years. Both were buried in Thurleston Church; and a large altar tomb was erected to their memory. The sketch, marked H., gives a representation of this, on which was traced the figures of the husband and wife, and underneath those of two sons and eight daughters. The left-hand half of this tomb is still traceable in the slab adjoining the chancel step and the west side of the organ; on which the robes of the lady, particularly the left sleeve and side shields, with some of the children, may still be seen; also the letters forming part of the words "*Jana Uxor.*" The right-hand space, where the figure of the husband would be, is now occupied by at least five different pieces of stone

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or alabaster. Foot to foot with the left-hand figure is another slab, on which are to be faintly seen the remaining traces of the long robes of a young female, and which formerly was surmounted by two shields of arms, and a Latin inscription, now quite obliterated, to the effect that "Here lies the body of Mary, the daughter of William Turvyle." The date of this is not mentioned; and it seems rather to indicate, *not* Sir William Turvile, the ecclesiastical commissioner, but William Turvyle of Thurleston, father of the founder of the New Hall mansion. To his memory also a stone was placed, but the figure and inscription have not been perfect within the memory of any historian, and no trace of them now remains. We have now come to the end of the list of persons represented by recumbent figures, either on altar tombs or flat slabs; after this time the memorials adopted in the Church here were either mural monuments or simple inscriptions on the floor of the Chantry.

The reigns of the three children of Henry VIII. (viz. Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth,) were marked by great changes in the history of The Church, and much persecution of people of all ranks for their various religious opinions; but the period during which the last of these Tudors reigned, generally known as the time of "Good Queen Bess," will always be remembered for the glory acquired by England among the nations, particularly when her people, setting aside their religious and political differences, rose against the tyranny of Philip of Spain, and brought about that crisis of naval supremacy in the destruction of the Invincible Spanish Armada.

In the year 1564, the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth, there were only seventeen families in Thurleston and six on the Normanton Turvile manor.

In the year 1580 died a famous bell-founder of

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Leicester, named Thomas Newcombe. The oldest bell known to have existed in Thurlaston Church Tower, and which having become unfit for further use, was broken up on the formation of the present peal, was, according to the deductions of Mr. Thomas North in his book on the Church Bells of Leicestershire, cast by this particular bell-founder. The peculiar design of panel, containing cross without shield was one adopted by him in his mouldings; and though the bell apparently bore no date, it would by this calculation hang in the tower for at least three hundred years. It bore also some peculiar lettering, which was supposed to stand for an inscription so mysterious, that as we are told by Mr. Nichols in his History, it was submitted to the learned Dr. Pegge and other antiquarian scholars to be deciphered. Their interpretations varied between the suppositions of its being Latin or Greek; and no definite meaning could be arrived at, so that the bell continued to be a curiosity until its destruction. Mr. North, however, having devoted his attention, in more recent years, to the subject of Church Bells, is able to tell us that it was sometimes the custom to place upon them the first few letters of the alphabet in old English form, and that this bell, bearing these letters, reversed in the casting and also inverted, was an "*Alphabet Bell:*" the letters thus having that mysterious appearance which gave rise to the puzzle. The inverted lettering, with figures of grotesque animals and the fleur de lis thrice repeated, and the particular design of panel above-mentioned as that of Thomas Newcombe, formed the ornaments of the bell.

One consequence of the suppression of the monasteries was the destruction and discontinuance of the records that had been so faithfully kept by the learned men therein; it became necessary to secure some other mode of preserving the account of local events, particularly

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of baptisms, marriages, and burials. Various royal mandates were issued on this subject during the reigns of the Tudors; not being for some time properly observed, it was ordained at length that parchment register books should be purchased at the expense of each parish, and that all the names from the older books, which had been mostly of paper, should be copied in the new ones from 1558; thus it is that many parish registers begin with that year, though there are also many that began at least one hundred years later. The old parchment registers belonging to this parish are among the earliest in the old diocese of Lincoln, dating from the year 1587; and are still in existence in the parish chest. They were not kept with the strict formality now required, the entries being lengthened or abbreviated, and the style of them altered at the discretion of the incumbent. They are closely written, mostly in a small handwriting formerly called Court-hand, and are somewhat difficult to decipher without the aid of a reading glass; besides which, the baptisms, marriages, and burials were not at first kept in separate books as at present, but were entered on succeeding pages of the same book until a new one was required. The first entry in the Thurlaston registers is as follows:—

"Anna Martin, ye daughter of Edw. Martin and Elizabeth his wife was baptized ye first of Aprill, Anno Dm. 1588."

In looking through these records, and seeing the names of persons who bore a prominent part in the history of the parish, side by side with the names of their humbler brethren, we may be impressed with the remembrance, how the Church in her holy offices and ministrations, to rich and poor alike, in the most momentous events, has entered into the life and death, the joys and sorrows of so many of her children of all ranks.

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In 1596, the manor of Bassett House, which had by descent and marriage passed from the lords Bassett of Sapcote, through the Motons of Peckleton, to the family of Harrington, was given with the manor of Blaston in Rutland, to John Grey in exchange for the manor of Barwell; from Humphrey, son of John Grey, it was bought a few years later by Mr. Nicholas Foxley, and afterwards left by him to his stepson, John Rooe, the first of the family to settle in this parish. The family of Rooe, whose name is variously spelt, were descended from William del Rowe of Macclesfield in the county of Chester, in the time of Edward I. One of them, Roger Roe, I have already mentioned as having been killed at Flodden Field. John Rooe of Normanton Turvile, born in 1601, son of Roger Rooe, fifth in descent from the above Roger, became squire of the body to King James the First; this king, son of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots, and sixth of his name in the northern kingdom, having succeeded to the throne of England on the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603.

With this beginning of the reigns of the Stuarts in England, a separation took place of the various manors of the parish and neighbourhood which had gradually accumulated and long remained in the hands of the Turviles.

The last Richard Turvile, of whose effigy I have spoken, was succeeded in the Thurleston and New Hall estates by his son Edward, and afterwards by his grandson Henry Turvile. The Normanton estate, however, passed into the hands of John Rooe by his marriage with Catherine, daughter of George Turvile and great granddaughter of Sir William Turvile, knight, of Aston Flamvile.

In the year 1607, another visitation, of which there exists an official record in the Registry at Lincoln, was held by the Archdeacon of Leicester in the Parish

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Church of Thurleston. Another document in the same Registry, compiled two years before, giving a List of Clergy, &c., in Leicestershire, shows that the patron at this time was Edward Turvill, gent., and that the incumbent was Richard Sherwood, M.A., who had been licensed by the Bishop of Norwich, the living then being valued at £13. This was at a time when men, in their desire for freedom in religious opinions, began to entertain loose and extreme notions regarding the worship of God, and many to show a contempt and irreverence for sacred things, ignoring the Apostles' injunction, that all things should be done decently and in order. It was in fact a continuation and growth of the same spirit which had been shown towards the beautiful works of olden days, at the time when the monasteries were suppressed; the first Stuart king and his advisers anticipated the evil that would ensue, unless some attempt were made to check the disorder arising from this want of discipline in public worship. Thus, in the account of the Visitation held here on the 27th and 28th days of July, 1607, certain persons were accused before the Archdeacon of all being guilty of the like offence, namely, "*for not receaveing the co'm* (communion) *the 2 yearcs last past in their p'ish* (parish), but taken it at other p'ishes, the reason being that they would not '*receave it kneelinge.*'"

The names of the delinquent parishioners are given as: — Thomas Wallen, Elizabeth his "wief," Jo Pyrkine, Helenor his wief, Agness Wallen, Martha Bate her daughter, William Bradford her servant, Nicholas her servant, Mr. Geo. Turvile, Jo. Houkes his servant, Mrs. Anne Turvile his wief, and Heleno' Hincome.

Agnes Wallen had also contrived that her child should be born in another parish, "*because it should not be baptized wth the signe of the crosse, and not be churched after the booke of com'on prayer.*" Probate of Wills, now provided for

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by the State, with Somerset House for head-quarters, was at that time administered by the Church, for notice was given on that occasion that George Wallen, husbandman had "*dyed since Whitsontide last, and made a will appointing his wief Agnes executrix.*" Whether Mrs. Agnes Wallen displayed the same spirit of contentiousness in administering the affairs of her late husband as in her religious duties, we are not informed.

It was in 1615 that Mr. Nicholas Foxley bought the Bassett House estate from the Grey family. Mr. Nicholas Foxley afterwards married the widow of Roger Rooe, and having no children of his own, settled the estate on John Rooe, her eldest son by her first marriage. Mrs. Foxley then persuaded her son to sell his estate at Youlgrave in Derbyshire, and to settle at Normanton. A portrait of this lady, taken when she had reached the age of seventy-two, was long observed in the dining-room of the old Normanton Hall.

In 1622, William Burton, a native of Falde near Tutbury, in the county of Stafford, published his "Description of Leicestershire," and dedicated it to the Duke of Buckingham, the favoured courtier of King James I. and his son Charles. Much of Burton's history is quoted by Mr. Nichols and other later historians under the name of the Burton MS.; the original writing is, however, particularly interesting in its quaint style and minute account of antiquities; and a great part of the information about the old altar-tombs and other noted details of the Thurleston Church fabric is taken from the description given by this historian. It is evident that in his day the church was adorned with many heraldic signs and features, and contained much painted glass; the coats of arms are minutely described by him, and he is particular to mention the frequency with which the coat of *Champaine* appeared above all others, representing the founder and first patrons of the Church. A

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few years, however, produced a great change in the appearance of things, for when Charles I. succeeded his father in 1625, the spirit of Puritanism, with its hatred of all that was beautiful in the House of God and His worship, was fast spreading throughout the land; and it is certain that Thurleston Church, in common with many of our Cathedrals and other beautiful churches, suffered much havoc at the hands of the Roundheads; resulting in a long period of decay and injudicious attempts at repair, from which it never fully recovered until the more careful and gradual system of consistent restoration was commenced about fifty years ago. In the first year of King Charles' reign (1626) a Decree was issued for dis-afforesting and inclosing Leicester Forest; and the adjoining landowners, including Nicholas Foxley of Bassett House, Henry Turvile of Thurleston and New Hall, and John Rooe and Richard Churchman of Normanton Turvile, in lieu of the forest land which they claimed in various quantities as parts of their several manors, were allotted distinct portions of ground in re-adjustment of their claims, Sir Miles Fleetwood on behalf of His Majesty making the requisite agreement with each of the above freeholders for the benefit of themselves and their tenants.

The civil war known as the Great Rebellion, at length broke out; and among those who suffered for their loyalty to the king was John Rooe, who in 1647 was fined by the Parliament to the amount of at least £310, for what they in the usual language called his "delinquency"; his offence being that he had left his habitation (presumably the one at Youlgrave), and resided in the enemy's quarters. His estate in fee was reckoned at £155 a year, and in reversion £100, charged with £1500 debts. It appears from this account in the "*Commons Journal*," that this first of the Rooe family at Normanton was punished severely in estate, if not in person,

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by the Roundhead rebels for his opposition to their wishes. In the Harleian MSS. (No. 2043) another account is given, and in the list of the loyal gentlemen who for their adherence to the king's cause were "surveyed by the Parliamentaries at Goldsmith's Hall, London, being the seat of injustice," appears the name not only of John Rooe of Normanton Turvile, with a fine of £730, but also that of *Abraham Wright of Thurleston*, in the hundred of Sparkenhoe, the amount in the latter case not being mentioned.

In 1649, on the 30th of January, by the influence of Oliver Cromwell and his supporters, after a mock trial, the unhappy but lofty-minded Charles the Martyr was beheaded at Whitehall. Persecution of the friends of Church and King at once followed; and the clergy in particular were subjected to much ill-usage and impoverishment, every parish being visited by commissioners who rudely criticised their ministrations in view of their ejection in favour of some fanatical preacher appointed by the Parliament. It was a sort of compliment they paid to Thurleston, which described the incumbent, in the return made in 1650, as "*sufficient.*" It is, however, very likely that the incumbent of the time, Mr. Richard Pullen, suffered persecution some time afterwards, as a clergyman of the same name was at the Restoration of the king made Chancellor of the Diocese of Lincoln, in consideration of the hardships through which he had passed.

The period of civil war, the sacrilege committed, and, as a result, the decline of true religion, are not pleasant to meditate upon; we have, however, one relic of that time in the bell which is the fourth of the present peal, and the largest of the old three. It bears the inscription "Soli Deo Gloria, Pax hominibus, 1653. ℑ. ℳ."

The year 1653 was the one in which Oliver Cromwell, having gained supreme power, both in Parliament and

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in the army, became Lord Protector of England. This bell, therefore, marks the period when our land, deprived for a time of her lawful king, passed under the iron rule of that remarkable man; nevertheless, it has survived to lift up its voice with its sister bells in the peal which heralded in the June morning of the Diamond Jubilee Year, which celebrated the completion of the longest reign and the loyalty of her people to the greatest Monarch in English History. Beyond the above words, expressing "Glory to God alone; and peace to men," with the date, the bell bears no other lettering to show who presented it, or who was its founder; the letters ℑ.ℳ. would, however, stand for *In Memoriam*, and it is very likely that it was presented in memory of John Rooe, who died in 1653; his widow Catherine, through whom he came into the Normanton estate, surviving him only just long enough to see the restoration of the young king Charles II. in 1660.

The old bell now sounds the note *G*, to which it was tuned to take its place in the present peal; its pitch was originally *A*, and it is said by those who can still remember the fact, that the string and wind instruments which used to be played in the old fashioned way in the gallery were tuned to its sound before the commencement of divine service.

Thomas, the eldest son of John and Catherine Rooe, had already died at Bassett House on June 10th, 1644, at the early age of 18: and Roger Rooe, the second son, succeeded to the estates of the family. It is evident that as the family of Rooe increased, and acquired some distinction in the parish and neighbourhood, that of Turvile declined, as will be mentioned further. But Thurleston Church continued to receive the remains of both families in the old chantry, though their resting places were more simply marked; and the plain slabs on the floor of the north aisle form a strong contrast to

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the remaining effigies and fragments of Tombs belonging to the older generations. As the inscriptions on these slabs may still be read without much trouble, it is not necessary to give them here in full, but simply to show them by initials and consecutive numbers in the plan of the Turvile Chantry.

The family of *Everard* became connected with this parish by the marriage of Margaret, daughter of Edward, and sister of Henry Turvile, with John Everard of Croft, son of Marmaduke Everard of Barlestone, the original members of the family being of Shenton and Heather.

Nothing of great importance happened in this parish during the remainder of the seventeenth century, though the country at large was subjected to great changes during the reigns of the rest of the Stuart family, James II. brother of Charles, William of Orange, son-in-law of James, and Queen Anne his younger daughter.

It should be mentioned that Bassett House, though occasionally used by the Rooe family for the accommodation of younger members, was soon leased by them to tenant occupiers. In the Barwell parish registers there is an entry dated October 11th, 1692, of the marriage of Catherine, daughter of Mr. Edward Partheridge and Mary his wife, of Bassett House, "neither in Barwell nor Thurlston Parish," showing that the estate was then regarded as *extra-parochial*, and not belonging to any ecclesiastical parish, which was the case with such manors lying at a distance from the principal domains of their original owners,—as in that instance of the lords Bassett of Sapcote.

The Revd. Joseph Pagett, who was rector both of this parish and of Barwell, died June 18th, 1705, and was buried three days later in the Chantry, where the inscription to his memory, covered for a time by pews, is

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again open to view. He was succeeded by the Revd. Peter Potter, whose name is mentioned in a Document belonging to the Registry at Lincoln, called "*Speculum Dioceseos Lincolniensis*," from which we also learn that there was service twice on the Lord's Day, besides extra ones in Holy Week, as well as Catechising and other means of instruction; the fact, however, of the number of Communicants being only four, shows that Church life had not recovered from the apathy occasioned by the influence of Puritanism.

Roger Rooe died in 1707, and was buried in the Chantry, as also were his surviving son and two of his daughters, viz.: Christopher, who succeeded to the estates, and died a bachelor; Dorothy and Margery. These two ladies were the donors of the Silver Communion Plate and Chalice, formerly in use in the Church, each bearing the arms of Rooe; the cup had the inscription: "The gift of Mrs. Dorothy Rooe to the Parish Church of Thurleston, Leicestershire"; and the plate "The gift of Mrs. Margery Rooe to the parish of Thurleston." They were mentioned in an entry made by the Revd. Peter Potter on the back of a parchment Terrier of the Parish, still existing at Lincoln, and are also referred to by the Revd. Anthony Trollope in his recent book on the "Church Plate of Leicestershire." They were evidently gifts made personally by the donors, and not by will; as their brother Christopher, who survived them, administered to their respective properties, but not to any such legacies. (Appendix I., N.)

In 1719, there were seven freeholders only in Thurleston; in the Normanton manor they were represented by Christopher Rooe, and by John Buckley of Bracknells; Robert Pindar also polled as a freeholder at Bassett House, but not in respect of property there, as it still was in the possession of the Rooes.

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Margery Rooe died in 1722, Dorothy in 1733, and Christopher in 1754; the plain slabs over their resting places surround that of their father Roger. The inscriptions on all can be easily read, though Mr. Trollope (no doubt inadvertently) asserts that the one to Margery "is not to be found."

In the meantime the Turvile property, apparently rapidly decreasing by portions being sold to new owners, passed from the hands of Henry Turvile to his son John, his grandson John, and his great grandson Edward; of none of these is there any particular record either of their lives, deaths, or burial places, though there is little doubt of their resting in the chantry of their ancestors.

At length, Edward Turvile, LL.D., of Jesus College, Cambridge, son of the last-named Edward Turvile, succeeded Mr. Potter as Rector of Thurleston in 1725, his father being patron of the living at the time. The Revd. Edward Turvile (the second Rector of that name) was the last male descendant of the Turvile line in this parish.

In the year 1746 was founded the smallest of the old three bells, now the second of the peal of five; it bears the inscription: "*Omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei; Gloria Deo Soli* (Do all to the glory of God: Glory to God alone). T. Eayre, A.D. 1746": the name Eayre being that family of bell-founders of the time. There is no intimation of the donor, or to whose memory it was placed in the tower.

Christopher Rooe having died unmarried, the Normanton estate became the property of George Yeo, Esq., in right of Anne his wife, daughter of Edward Beresford, by Isabella Rooe, sister of the above.

The Yeo family belonged to Huish in the county of Devon; and readers of Canon Kingsley's "*Westward Ho*" will remember the name as that of a conspicuous

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personage in this romance, the chief scene of which is laid in that county.

The Revd. Edward Turvile died 1758, and an entry in the old register runs "Buried, April 16th, 1758, the Revd. Mr. Turville, LL.D., Rector." The site of his tomb is not now apparent. He was succeeded in the living by the Revd. Nathaniel Trotter, LL.B., who, however, did not enter into his cure until May 14th, 1761, a delay for which there is no satisfactory reason.

The first and second Georges, of the House of Hanover, having reigned, we now come to the time when the grandson of the latter ascended the throne; the days remembered by our grand-parents in their youth when George III. was king, in the first year of whose reign Mr. Trotter became Rector.

The incumbency of this clergyman is interesting, on account of some important parochial events; and yet it seems impossible to look back on this period without some feelings of regret both with regard to the condition of the Church, materially and spiritually, and for the changes which, necessarily or otherwise, then took place. Every Churchman may now assert, without fear of contradiction from anyone who considers the truth, that the Church of England is at the present day amply fulfilling her mission to the nation at large; on the other hand it would not be honest to deny that in the eighteenth century, many abuses, not part of the Church's original organization, had crept in under the influence of political partisans and during the apathy in religious life succeeding the days of Puritanism.

It was one of these abuses, not however affecting the personal character of the incumbent, which enabled Mr. Trotter to hold the living of Thurleston and at the same time to have the charge of a Church so far away as Blisworth, at which place he seems to have resided more regularly than in this parish, particularly in his latter

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days, when he became affected by severe attacks of gout. Soon after his induction to Thurleston, he built a new Rectory here, chiefly at his own expense, which formerly stood in the enclosure known as the Church Close, then adjoining the western boundary of the Churchyard; the undertaking being completed in 1765. In the year 1769, an Act was passed for dividing and inclosing the open and common fields in the parish of *Thurlston*, otherwise *Thulston*, consisting of about twenty-three yard lands and a half, and containing about seven hundred and fifty acres. In this Act, Joshua Grundy, Esquire, is described as lord of the manor of Thurlston, the Turvile property being now so broken up as to belong partly to him as possessor of the New Hall Park estate, and to other small owners, viz., William Major, Mary Major, and John Smart. Each of the proprietors, including the Revd. Nathaniel Trotter as owner of the glebe lands, as well as to the owners of such cottages as were entitled to right of common a due allotment was made, in proper proportions, of the ground contained in the open and common fields in full compensation of their respective rights.

It should be borne in mind, in connection with this subject, that the ancient boundaries and subdivisions of land were by no means so well defined as in the present day. The formation of fields and enclosures by hedges and other definite limits is of comparatively recent date, hence the curious method of denoting the position of land in the old "Terrier," and the necessity for the old custom adopted by parish authorities of "beating the bounds."

Mr. Joshua Grundy was originally from Thornton, and in no way connected with the old lords of the manor, whose rights evidently passed to him by purchase; he was a person of some importance in the County, and had already, in 1757, served the office of

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sheriff, besides being a Justice of the Peace and deputy lieutenant. He was the son of Nicholas Grundy, Esq., of Thornton, and his residence was the farm-house, called the Oaks, in the parish of Kirby Muxloe.

Edward, the son of George Yeo and Anne Beresford grand-daughter of Roger Rooe, took the name of Rooe-Yeo, and succeeded his parents in the Normanton estate. To their joint memory, in addition to the inscriptions over their graves, he erected a mural monument in the far north-eastern corner of the chantry "as a mark of his filial affection."

Mr. Trotter, being non-resident during a large portion of his incumbency, was of course obliged to provide a curate to carry on the work of the parish: one of the first of these was the Revd. Mr. Adamson, who died here, aged 56 years, and was buried at the west end of the nave, where the inscription, now nearly obliterated, declares: "Faithfully he discharged the duty of his function, was a friend to the distressed, and the patron of humility."

The adjoining slab covers the remains of two daughters of Roger Rooe, who died young; that apparently being the fate of several members of the family in that and former generations; so that Edward Rooe-Yeo was the sole representative of the Rooe family, at much the same time as Elizabeth Turvile was the last of the Turvile line.

In 1774, a Poem on the subject of *Croft Hill*, which was likened by Mr. David Wells, F.R.S., to a large lemon floating in a punch-bowl, was written by a gentleman of Leicester. The Poem is ninety-six lines in length, and describes the scenery to be viewed from the hill; it is too long to be given in full, but there are portions relating to Thurleston and Normanton which make it interesting, though many parts are mere alternations of fulsome flattery and meddling criticism.

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After describing the hill itself, the Poem goes on :—

"See Thurleston's brook below meandering glides,
And slowly creep along its narrow sides;
The fishes here, forgetful of their state,
Now sport and play, then glide to certain fate;
The squire delights to spread his net with care,
Then cautiously he draws the pliant snare;
Behold what joy enlivens all his face,
When in the net he views the silver race;
Not half so pleased the belle, who round her throws
Her silver net to *catch* unwary beaux."

Normanton Lake or river is next alluded to as follows :—

"But turn your eye to yon delightful stream
That flows more spacious o'er th' enamell'd green;
Silent it glides in mazy windings on,
Clear and transparent as it moves along;
The stately swans here sail with secret pride,
And solitary storks here haunt the river's side."

After speaking of "lowly Marston," "Tooley's venerable fabrick," and "chearful Kirkby,—graced with the presence of its noble peer" (Lord Viscount Wentworth), the poet continues :—

"In Normanton's bless'd hospitable hall you'll find
True friendship heightened by a generous mind;
While fame proclaims aloud, well pleased to tell
That Piety with Virtue here doth dwell;
And Taste with every elegance adorns
Those verdant fields, and decks those spacious lawns.
To roving minds how joyless these appear,
Though Art and Nature seem united here."

Mr. Edward Rooe-Yeo was at this time M.P. for Coventry, and was necessarily much away from home on his parliamentary duties, but this does not escape the poet's criticism, who refers to him as the "sprightly Yeo," and to his quitting his enchanting home for gayer scenes in this and foreign lands.

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After an allusion to the extensive prospect from Earl Shilton, we come to the most pleasing reference to Thurleston, in the following lines :—

"But lowly Thurleston boasts no scenes like these,
In more contracted views it strives to please;
Yet fields there are such pleasing beauties wear,
That rural Nymphs have said, Elysium's there.
If more extensive prospects charm our sight,
Then *Castle Pit* affords that sweet delight;
Within that pond the fishes careless play,
No hidden snare obstructs their watery way;
The wild duck on the isle secure may rest,
No foe is there to rob her secret nest."

After referring to "towering Bardon," "Markfield Knowl," "Mount Pleasant," and other prominent points, the poet speaks of the pleasures of the chase, but seems to deprecate the increasing use of the gun, especially in interfering with the comfort of the lark and other birds of song; concluding with the hope that, if men will still be so unfeeling in their treatment of God's creatures, their hearts may in turn be pierced by the anguish of despairing and disappointed love.

The chief interest attaching to this poem is the allusion made to *Castle Pit*, the broken ground with adjoining spinney some hundred yards north-east of the Clump Farm, where the position of the moat and island can still be traced; here, tradition says, that an old mansion stood, belonging to some of the former lords of the manor, and it has even been connected with the effigies on the large alabaster monument in the Church; but I regret to say that, in all the books which I have perused in gathering the information for compiling this history, I have as yet met with no written evidence of the truth of the tradition connected with the tragedy spoken of as happening "*in Cromwell's time*," or the slightest idea of the origin of the tale.

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Should I hereafter meet with any authentic account, I shall be happy to make it public.

In Sept., 1776, died *Mrs.* Elizabeth Turvile, sister of the late Rector, and the last descendant of all the Turvile family in this Parish. She had in her old age found a refuge in the Hospital for Widows at Ravenstone; on her death there, she was brought to be buried in the old Chantry of the family, which fact is recorded in the register, but no inscription was placed on her tomb. She had possessed and guarded with care a beautifully illuminated copy on vellum of the pedigree of her family; this she bequeathed to Sarah Lindley, an old servant, who had loyally clung to them, and shared in their poverty and distress: charging her to guard it also, and to part with it to none but a Turvile. As Mr. Francis Fortescue Turvile of Husbands Bosworth, representing another branch of the line, was afterwards said to have in his possession a beautiful copy, it is probable that it came to him from Sarah Lindley, who thus faithfully fulfilled the charge entrusted to her. There is something pathetic in this decay and end of the Turvile family, who had been connected with the Parish of Thurleston for at least five hundred years, and given a large portion of it a distinct title in the name of Normanton Turvile; and further, without positively asserting it as a fact, it does not require much stretch of the imagination to suppose that *Turvill* or *Tourvill* was the Norman form of the name Thurleston or rather Turchilestone, a Saxon name which the Normans would find too rugged to agree with their French pronunciation; against this idea, however, must be set the fact that the name Turvile, both as a place-name and a family name, has existed, and is still used on the continent, as well as in this country.

In the years 1778-9, a very great change was effected in the fabric of the Church; and it is scarcely possible now to estimate how far it was required by the circumstances.

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of the time, and how much may be attributed to an indifference to architectural beauty and religious art. It is well known that apathy in religion itself is always accompanied by a low estimate of the appearance of God's House; and that, towards the close of the eighteenth century, and for many years in the nineteenth, utility and cheapness of work and material, rather than due attention to consistent restoration, guided the minds of parish authorities in any work connected with the old Churches. Whatever may have been the necessity of the time, the chief feature in the work undertaken in the year 1778 was a destruction of the original symmetry of the fabric; and however well-intentioned, must still be regretted, if for nothing else, than the alteration of the south-west view of the Church. For the proposed changes, a faculty had to be obtained from the Archdeacon of Leicester, in whose behalf it was granted by Edward Taylor, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

This document is still in existence in the Parish Chest, having been found by the present Rector of Newbold Verdon in the house of one of his parishioners, and sent by him to the late Revd. G. E. Bruxner as a writing interesting to this parish. The Revd. Nathaniel Trotter being afterwards interred at Newbold was evidently the cause of its being found in that parish.

Like all legal writings, it is lengthy and full of repetition of phrases and names, and cannot be given in full here; it, however, sets forth that, "application having been made in due form, after a decision of the parishioners in vestry assembled, on account chiefly of the decayed state of the south aisle, in its walls, windows, and roof, as well as the bad condition of the nave, and a declaration that the said nave with the north aisle was sufficient for the accommodation of all the parishioners during divine service"—permission was given to George Everard and Thomas Biggs, the Churchwardens of the time, to

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carry out the proposed changes and repairs, the chief of which were :—to take down the south aisle, and to build a new south wall to the nave, to lower the walls of the nave to the height of those of the north aisle; to put an entire new roof on the same, and to cover it with slates, to ceil the body of the Church, and to plaster the walls, to make a new outer door, five feet wide, at the west end of the belfry, and a new inner door of the same width from the belfry into the middle aisle, to make a new belfry floor for the ringers, to divide Mr. Grundy's aisle from the other part of the north aisle by a partition wall, with a door therein, and to wall up the arch between it and the chancel, to repair the floor with new quarries, and to erect a new pulpit, reading desk, and pews. All these proposals being carried out, an inscription was placed near the entrance, signifying :—

"This Church was rebuilt, 1779.

"Nathaniel Trotter, Rector.
"George Everard, } Churchwardens."
"Thomas Biggs, }

Great as were the changes thus effected, both in the outer and internal appearance of the old Church, whether judicious or not, we may be thankful that sufficient was allowed to remain to denote its Norman origin, and that to this day the solid Norman pillars at least show its more than seven centuries of stability. The portion spoken of as Mr. Grundy's aisle was the old Turvile Chantry, the rights of the Turviles having, in that particular as well as others, passed to him as lord of the manor, when he became possessed of the New Hall property. Being now shut off from the rest of the Church, it became a neglected place, and generally known until its re-opening as the "*Dark Chancel.*" The faculty for carrying out the plans is dated the nineteenth day of March, 1778, and the work was completed in that and

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the following year. In 1781, the King's Arms were painted by Lewin of Hinckley, and displayed in this as in other Churches.

Mr. Edward Rooe-Yeo died in 1782. A mural tablet of white marble to his memory, directly over the one he had himself placed to the memory of his parents, in the north-eastern corner of the chantry, reads thus:—"To the memory of Edward Rooe-Yeo, Esq., late of Normanton, in this Parish, deceased; the last in the male line of his name and family, who was heretofore of Huish, in the County of Devon, a gentleman of great liberality and strict honour. He died the 24th of December, 1782, and lies interred below. To perpetuate his memory, this monument is erected by his grateful friend and executor, William Hole, of Chumley in the County of Devon, Esq."

Mr. Yeo appears to have done much to improve the surroundings of Normanton Hall, particularly of the stables and the appearance of the portion of the river close by; but Mr. Nichols asserted that "no just idea could be formed of the mansion of the Turviles at this place; some ruins of the garden walls might be traced, part of the kitchen with a long stone chimney was perceivable, but what remained thereof was now converted into an indifferent habitation." The following description of the precincts of Normanton Hall in the Burton MS. is worth giving:—"In looking from the bridge, which extends over the water near the house, transversly or in a right direction down the gentle stream, everything within compass of the sight produces the happiest effect; towards which the water, which is marked with a fine curved line, contributes not a little. When stationed below, in the meadows, the spectator's eye is attracted by the rich appearance towards the bridge, which bounds the sight, partially hidden by the bowery objects near it." An old chapel within the mansion,

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used in their private worship by the older Turviles, had long since been destroyed, most likely when Sir William Turvile acted as ecclesiastical commissioner in this county, in obedience to Henry VIII.

On the death of Mr. Edward Rooe-Yeo, the Normanton Estate, including the manor of Bassett House, was offered for sale, and was bought by Mr. Holled Smith.

The Knowle Farm had now come into existence as part of the Bassett House property, and there were five occupiers of land connected with the latter, which was at this time styled a manor as of old, and still sanctioned as such, because the owner deputed a keeper, for whom he took out an annual license. It was also called the "Liberty of Bassett Houses"; and an assessor and collector of taxes was appointed yearly; but it was said not to be a "*vill* by reputation, because it had no constable; neither was it a *hamlet*, and consequently held no *court*." The house itself bore tokens of having formerly been of considerable magnitude, chiefly of stone, massive and firm, moated round: the stream supplying numerous fish-ponds in its vicinity.

In the twenty-sixth year of George the Third's reign, an Act of Parliament was passed for procuring a Return of all Charitable Donations for the Benefit of Poor Persons in all Parishes of England; and such return was made for the Parish of Thurleston, signed by T. Slade, Curate, and Robert Buckley, Churchwarden, and sworn before the appointed authority on September 28th, 1786. Three very small charities were mentioned as then existing, the donors having been Richard Everard, Richard Veasey, and John Bell; the annual value only amounted to thirty shillings, and was payable out of property so uncertain in tenure as to yield no lasting dividend. Mr. Slade, now Curate-in-charge for Mr. Trotter, continued in that office until the death of the latter, whom he then succeeded as Rector.

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It would be out of place in a work of this kind to make any comment on the respective claims of the Established Church and those of our Nonconformist neighbours, or to suggest any rivalry between them: it must therefore suffice to say that as the outcome of the existence of Nonconformity in more or less degree during the whole of the eighteenth century, the General Baptist Chapel was at length built in 1787; honestly admitting that the Church of England, through various adverse influences, was not then, as she certainly is now, fully alive to her work and the needs of the people.

In 1790, Mr. John Throsby published his "*Leicestershire Views and Excursions*"; he mentions the chief facts already given about this Parish and the condition of the old Church and monuments. His comment on the Chancel is very quaint and not at all satisfactory; for he says "The Chancel, which I am informed belongs to Mr. Grundy, is not the cleanest place I have seen."

The chief point of interest in the incumbency of the Revd. Nathaniel Trotter, is the correspondence which took place in 1791 between him and the celebrated antiquarian and historian, Mr. John Nichols. It was when collecting information for his great undertaking called the "History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester," that Mr. Nichols applied to the old Rector of Thurleston for particulars respecting this parish; and he gives in full the replies received from Mr. Trotter, whom he speaks of as a "worthy old gentleman." On account of their length, these letters cannot be here fully recorded, but the main portion of their sentiments may be mentioned. In his first reply, the rector acknowledges the receipt of the author's papers concerning Thurleston, which he had perused with attention. He confesses his non-residence, and his less frequent visits owing to his severe malady (the gout); but though unable to give much information himself, he promises help

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through his tenant and churchwarden Mr. Everard and another friend, who he feels sure will at his request assist in consulting parochial records, and hopes the author "may enjoy uninterrupted health" to complete his intended work, and derive advantages from it equal to the arduousness of the undertaking. With respect to himself, he adds that he was entered a Commoner at Lincoln College, Oxford, and took the degree of LL.B. He afterwards rather complains of the description given by Mr. Nichols of the Chancel, as reflecting some discredit upon himself, and speaks of the expense to which he had been put in repairs to the roof, in building the new Rectory, and other work; he moreover for the moment seems to resent the neglect of his predecessor Dr. Edward Turvile and the later members of the Turvile family; he however admits that they were an "antient and honourable race," and with a sudden change of feeling he says "Yet, however just my cause for censure, I forbear to enlarge. They are gone, and peace to their manes." He hopes Mr. Nichols will erase the passage containing the unfavourable description of the chancel, inasmuch as no complaints had been made at the Visitation of Archdeacon Bingham; and he himself, although unable to re-build it, would uphold everything within his province from decay. He subsequently thanks Mr. Nichols for alterations made, sends him the pedigree of the Rooe family, promises if living to be a subscriber to the work when completed, a work which he fears will involve difficulties arising like "*Alps upon Alps*," but wishing him a fund of health and spirits to complete his plan.

Mr. Nichols concludes this account of the old gentleman's letters with the remark: "Mr. Trotter's fears about the increasing difficulties attending this extensive work were prophetic, '*The Alps on Alps*' have indeed arisen. But I have providentially surmounted them."

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Mr. Joshua Grundy, owner of New Hall Park and lord of the manor, died on the 22nd day of July, 1793; he was buried at Polesworth in Warwickshire, and his son succeeded to his rights. Mr. Holled Smith, who was not, as some have supposed, the author of the benefaction known as Mr. Smith's Charity, died July 14th, 1795; after which the Normanton estate was again offered for sale, together with the manor of Bassett House, on June 2nd, 1796. Mr. Richard Arkwright of Cromford, in the county of Essex, purchased the property, which was fully described in the conditions of sale, as consisting of nearly one thousand acres, "situate about eight miles from the town of Leicester, on the turnpike road from thence to Coventry."

Mr. Trotter did not live to see the completion of Mr. Nichols' History, for he died February 15th, 1797, and was buried at his own request at Newbold Verdun. The name of Mrs. Trotter, Chater House, Newbold, however, appears in the list of subscribers to the work. The Revd. Thomas Slade, formerly curate, now became Rector of the Parish; but, like his predecessor, had another living in his hands, that of Austrey, in Warwickshire, where he afterwards chiefly resided. He was a son of a former Head Master of Market Bosworth Grammar School, where he had himself in early days held the office of usher. It was not until nearly the middle of the nineteenth century that Thurlaston again had a resident Rector. The various curates who had charge of the Parish resided in the old Rectory House, standing in the Church Close; and it is not surprising that they were gradually looked upon as possessing as much authority as if they themselves held the livings, and were really Rectors of the Parish.

In 1801, the first official return was made to Parliament, as the beginning of a regular census, since undertaken every ten years. From various sources I

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have been able to collect and give in the Appendix the Population of the Parish in every decade from 1801 to 1891.

In the will of Mr. William Smart, dated 1802, a bequest was made by him to the Parish of £250; the interest of £200 to be applied annually to the education of sixteen poor children, and that of the remaining £50 in the free distribution of coals to poor families.

The application of the bequest, known as *Smart's Charity*, was left to the discretion of the occupant of the Testator's former residence (now the Rectory House); and, it is needless to say that, in both cases, the administration of the Trust is carried out consistently with the terms of the will, as also in the former case with the altered conditions of elementary schools.

Mr. William Smart died February 28th, 1805, and was buried underneath the Church Tower; the inscription on the slab is now scarcely legible.

The great work undertaken by Mr. Nichols of the "History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester," was published by him in 1811. It consists of four large volumes, each containing two parts; and gives an almost complete account of every Parish in the County, with many illustrative Plates of the Churches, Monuments, Mansions, and Coats of Arms. If incorrect in any particular, it was not the fault of the author, who took infinite pains to collect accurate information from responsible persons where he was not able to investigate himself on the spot. One discrepancy between his statement about "*Lestone*" and the more recent reproduction of Domesday Book I have already mentioned, but it is only for the sake of accuracy, and with due deference to this learned antiquarian. Mr. Nichols published several other works of a similar nature; and it is from one of these, called "*Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*," that I am at length enabled, after much disappointment, to

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identify the large alabaster monument as that of John Turvile and his wife Katharine,—from the copy in the British Museum.

As the works of Mr. Nichols have evidently not been reprinted, and are consequently becoming rare and valuable, it may not be out of place to advise anyone who possesses a copy of any portion of his works, however small, to guard it with care. The subsequent history of this Parish up to the Jubilee Year is gathered from many sources, and I may here say that, however valuable modern directories may be for ordinary reference on business matters, the statements made in them respecting the past history of the Parish should not be accepted too readily, partly because the information has often been obtained from irresponsible persons, or copied from some older book of doubtful accuracy, besides which, careful revision is so seldom undertaken. For this reason I have not accepted any statement in these directories, unless I could verify it from some other source; and newspaper reports, where quoted at all, have first been carefully compared with other accounts. The list of Curates and of Churchwardens, given in the Appendix, is compiled from the Parish Registers and old Churchwardens' Account Books, the dates being calculated from their first official acts in either office.

When there was first a Clock placed in the Tower is a matter of uncertainty, but several pounds were spent by the Churchwardens from time to time in repairs to the Church Clock in the early years of the nineteenth century; as well as in a plentiful supply of white-wash and other inartistic ways of cleansing and renovating the interior of the fabric.

One of the evils of the abuse of patronage and sale of advowsons was exemplified in 1811, when in the *Leicester Journal* dated April 12th of that year the living

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of Thurleston was offered for sale, subject to the life interest of the incumbent (Mr. Slade), who was then in his sixty-fifth year; application to be made to a firm of solicitors, Messrs. Hanrott and Metcalfe, of Lincoln's Inn, London. It would, however, appear that further attempt at negotiation was abandoned or frustrated by a protest on a piece of parchment attached to the outer West door of the Church, dated at Blaby, May 14th, stating that no person was entitled to sell the advowson without the consent of the undersigned, *Halford Turvile Davie*, who claimed it as his property. The provisions of the Bill on this subject introduced into Parliament, gather emphasis when such abuses as the above come under notice. This, however, casts no reflection on the memory of the incumbent, who, though residing chiefly at Austrey, appears to have provided faithfully for the discharge of clerical work at Thurleston, as it was then understood. The names of the Revds. John Glover, William Thistlewaite, and George Robinson, appear as three of his successive curates; to an infant son of the last-named, dying in 1813, a small slab was placed, which may now be seen between the organ and the north choir stalls.

This was the period when the War of the French Revolution was at its height, but brought to an end by the decisive battle and complete overthrow of Napoleon Buonaparte on the field of Waterloo by the British and other allied troops under Wellington and Blucher, June 18th, 1815.

We have no particular account of parish events during those last days of the aged George III., whose infirmities necessitated the appointment of his son as Regent, the latter succeeding his father in 1820 as George IV., the year following the birth of our beloved sovereign, then the Princess Victoria, daughter of Edward Duke of Kent, May 24th, 1819.

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But from those years some of our oldest parishioners may count the day of their birth, and have the honour of having survived to see the reigns of four English Sovereigns.

Mr. Slade died in 1824; the Revd. Hesketh Williams, present Vicar of Austrey, to whom I applied for information respecting him, says that some of his oldest parishioners seem to have "a very kindly though rather slight remembrance of the good old Vicar's ways and doings." There is no entry of his death or burial in the Austrey registers, but Mr. Williams has very kindly given me a copy of the inscription on a white marble mural monument placed to his memory in the south aisle of that Church. (Appendix I., M.)

Mr. Slade was succeeded in the Rectory of Thurlaston by the Rev. Joseph Arkwright, son of Mr. Richard Arkwright of Normanton, the then patron of the living. Some of the most interesting facts in connection with Mr. Arkwright's incumbency may be gleaned from the manuscript Reports of the Visitations of the Venerable Archdeacon Bonney on three different occasions during that time. These reports the bishop of the diocese caused to be bound and presented to the Leicester Public Free Library. They contain in a regularly tabulated form details respecting the Church fabric and furniture, its condition both interior and exterior, the churchyard, the services held, the Rectory, and everything else concerning the connection of the Church with the Parish. We see in them the state of the Church during the course of the reign of William IV., who succeeded his elder brother in 1830.

Thus on the occasion of the first Visitation in 1832, we find that on the whole the Archdeacon was satisfied with the state of the fabric, remarking however that the inside walls had not been "*white-washed*" since 1814. The Books, that is, Bible and Prayerbook, &c., were in

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decent order, but the surplices, hood, communion cloth, etc., appear to have been rather delapidated. The whole condition of things was very much like that of all country churches at the time. There was of course no organ; the singing was led and accompanied in the gallery at the west end of the nave by various instruments (string and otherwise); and there are performers still living who remember with satisfaction their connection with the choir and instruments of that day.

The Curate at that time, living in the Rectory House, was the Revd. Richard Thomas William Taylor. There were two full services on the Sunday, but none during the week; and the Sacrament was administered eight times only during the year. The churchyard wall near the street was then under repair; at the east end was a brick wall and also one of mud; there were said to be handsome iron gates at the east end, also a wooden gate painted white, and on the north side a small gate almost new. There was then no Village Schoolroom; but there was a Day School held by Mr. and Mrs. Hall (the former having been a baker) in a house near the Dog and Gun Inn, the spot still being known as Hall's Yard. It was attended by about eighty children, the Sunday School by about one hundred.

The only subject of general dissatisfaction, and of which the Archdeacon was obliged to take particular notice, was the wretched state of the old Chantry, then called Mr. Grundy's aisle. This Mr. Joseph Grundy, the owner of the New Hall Park estate, was supposed to keep in repair in lieu of paying Church rates on his property, but he had failed to do so, and the Archdeacon was asked to enforce the fulfilment of this duty:—a somewhat difficult task.

The Rector (Mr. Arkwright) resided chiefly at Mark Hall, Essex; but did not forget parish interests, and in 1835 the first Village Schoolroom was built at his expense

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on the glebe land adjoining the Churchyard. This fact should be continually borne in mind, particularly when unscrupulous politicians for their own party purposes come and assert that the National Schoolroom has been provided and kept up by the State; forgetting or ignoring the truth, that the Church of England has been the promoter, not only of true liberty, but of true education also.

In the early morning of June 20th, 1837, King William IV. passed away, and was immediately succeeded by his niece, our revered Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, though she was not crowned until June 28th in the following year.

By an order in Council, dated August 21st, 1837, it was directed that upon the first avoidance of the See of of Peterborough (that is, when the Bishop of the time should die or resign), the County of Leicester should be severed from the Diocese of Lincoln, and form one of the Archdeanries in the Diocese of Peterborough. This took effect when the Right Rev. George Davys, formerly Preceptor to the youthful Queen, became in 1839 the twenty-fourth Bishop of Peterborough. Thus Thurlaston, as one of the Parishes in the Archdeaconry of Leicester, has been successively in the Dioceses of Mercia (or Lichfield), Leicester, Dorchester, Lincoln, and Peterborough. The details of this will be seen in the Appendix, in the Table showing the connection between the parish and the dioceses, and the contemporary Archbishops, Bishops and Rectors. (Appendix III.)

The continued Reports by Archdeacon Bonney give some further particulars of the Church. On September 21st, 1838, the west side of the Tower was struck by lightning, damaging the wall and also the bell frames, which were however soon repaired. There had been some slight improvements in the interior, but the Chantry was still in a bad condition, and the Chancel damp. Part of the

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Communion Plate had been stolen and replaced by more ordinary vessels. It was still thought sufficient to white-wash the walls of the Church when any renovation was needed. In 1842, the Fabric was pronounced to be on the whole in a good state, the Bible, Prayerbook, and Altar Service in decent condition; but the Rectory, the residence of the Curate, was now in a bad condition.

There had been some advance in Church life during the ten years covered by these reports, for there were now not only the two full services on Sunday, but any Church Festivals falling on the week-days were also observed. The Holy Communion was now regularly administered on the first Sunday in the month, previous to which there was a Saturday Evening Service, seemingly as a preparation; there was, too, a special celebration on Christmas Day, Easter Day, Holy Thursday (Ascension Day), and Whit Sunday.

It should be mentioned that about this time (May 20th, 1840,) a fire occurred in York Minster, caused by the carelessness of a workman engaged in repairs: this was the second fire in that noble edifice—the first having happened eleven years before, when it was lighted by an incendiary lunatic. It is interesting that the large Alms Dish, as well as a smaller one, now in use in Thurlaston Church, is made from Oak and Bell Metal saved during that second fire. The larger Alms Dish is 14¼ inches in diameter, and 1½ inches deep; in its centre is the sacred monogram (I.H.S.) The smaller one is 9 inches in diameter, and 1 inch deep; in the centre is a small plate, bearing the ecclesiastical insignia of York, and the circular inscription giving the origin of the material, as already mentioned.

In 1845, Mr. Arkwright, who had succeeded to the patronage of the Church, resigned the living, and appointed his son-in-law, the Revd. George Edward Bruxner to be Rector in his stead. To the family of the latter I am

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indebted for notes of events during his incumbency; and the commencement of his work here as Rector cannot be better expressed than in the words, that *the "condition of the Church at once became his anxious care."*

The house, now known as The *Holt*, was built by him as a new Rectory House, soon after his induction, in place of the old delapidated one provided by Mr. Trotter eighty years before. The Chancel of the Church, which had been partially rebuilt by Mr. Arkwright was now completed, and in 1850 the new east window, the gift of the Rector's two sisters, was supplied by Messrs. Wailes of Newcastle, the stone-work tracery being an enlarged copy of a window in Stoke Golding Church.

The five principal lights contain full-length figures of Abraham, David, S. John, S. Peter, and S. Paul, underneath each of which, in the lower compartments, are angelic figures bearing scrolls of texts illustrative of the above. The upper compartments contain representations of the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of our Lord.

The next work undertaken was the reclaiming of what had been so long known as the "Dark Chancel," the old Turvile Chantry, called also "Mr. Grundy's Aisle."

It may be observed here, as an instance of the fallacy of modern directories on these matters, that one in frequent circulation for many years makes the assertion, that Thurlaston Church contains monuments to the "Turvile and *Grundy* families." While one portion of the information is correct, there is no evidence that any members of the Grundy family were buried here, and certainly no monuments or inscriptions are to be seen to their memory; we may therefore suppose that the fact of its being the privilege of the Grundys as lords of the manor to lay claim to the old chantry, though they seem to have been wholly unconscious of any duties connected with it, has led to this mistake.

The condition of this portion of the north aisle when

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its re-opening was begun was very bad indeed. It was so dark that its contents could not be viewed except with lighted candles, and it was full of dirt and rubbish of all kinds. It had at one time been used as the receptacle for coals; and, on its being cleared, several loads of rich soil were carted away, the decayed remains of many years of Christmas hollies and evergreens. It was impossible that the work could be done without some further injury to the remaining monuments and slabs; but such as could be saved were replaced, and the large alabaster tomb was removed, with several other tablets, from its awkward position in the Chancel to its present site. The eastern wall of the aisle being considered unsafe, it was pulled down, and the present clergy vestry was built. Of the two windows on the northern side sufficient remained to determine the tracery of each, which was faithfully adhered to in the restoration.

The Old and New Testament Lesson Books, now in use on the Lectern, contain the following writing:—"Presented by the Revd. Lucius Fry, B.A., for use in Divine Service at Thurlaston Church, in remembrance of the 3rd day of September, 1850, when the enlargement and alterations were completed, which had been designed and superintended by his brother, Mr. Stephen Fry, architect.

"George Edward Bruxner, Rector.

"Thomas Everard, and
"Robert Wigram Cartwright, } Churchwardens."

The donor of the Lesson Books was about that time officiating as Curate in the Parish, in which office he was succeeded by the Revd. Thomas Philip Craven (1853).

Under the Tithe Commutation Act, an award of £42 was made in lieu of the tithes discharged (December 31st, 1850,) the value of the tithes at the time being:—

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	Price per Bushel.		Bushels.
	s.	*d.*	
Wheat ...	7	0¼	39.88131
Barley ...	3	11½	70.73684
Oats ...	2	9	101.81818

While the restoration of the Church was gradually progressing, other necessities of the Parish were not forgotten; for in 1853 a new Schoolroom and School House were provided, at the cost of £1000, to which, in 1859, the Infant Schoolroom was added, costing an additional £500. The site and buildings thereon were afterwards secured to the Parish for the purposes originally intended by the donor, by a trust deed.

In 1860, the Normanton Turvile estate was again sold, and became the property of William Worswick, Esq., of Birstall Hall. The Revd. G. E. Bruxner now became Patron of Thurlaston as well as Rector, and the work of restoration proceeded; and, before the end of 1860, that of the Nave was completed, the parishioners having throughout the whole undertaking shown the deepest interest. The Churchwardens at the time were:—for the Rector, Mr. Joseph Mudford; and for the Parish, Mr. Everard Oldacres. During the progress of this work, some interesting discoveries were made, including (1) a few small panels of carved oak, supposed to be the remains of a chancel screen, which were worked into the present pulpit; (2) the base of two pillars, which had been hidden by the raised floor; and (3) a small number of tiles, with the sacred monogram thereon, which were placed near the tomb of the Founder of the Chantry. Mr. Craven, after holding the curacy for five years, was obliged to go to South Africa for the benefit of his health; he died there in February, 1860. The Window over the West door in the Tower was placed to his memory by the parishioners, to whom he

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had endeared himself by his ready sympathy and self-denying life. This window was also by Messrs. Wailes, and has in the centre the figure of *S. Thomas*, underneath which is the text: "Blessed are they which have not seen, and yet have believed;" on the right side is the expressed wish of the Greeks: "We would see Jesus;" and on the left, the reply of *S. Philip*, as given to Nathaniel, "Come and see." The brass plate close by, recently renovated and placed in a more favourable position for view, bears the inscription:—"To the Glory of God, and in grateful memory of his servant, Thomas Philip Craven, M.A., for five years Curate of this Parish, who died February, 1860, this Memorial Window is erected by the Parishioners of Thurlaston."

A further appreciation of the work done at this time was shown at Easter, 1862, when the people of Thurlaston presented their Rector with an affectionate address, and the sum of £50. This money, with their concurrence, was devoted by him to the purchase of a stained glass window, the one near the pulpit, the subject chosen being "*The Light of the World*," from Holman Hunt's noted picture. On the right hand of the Divine Form occupying the centre are the words: "Be zealous therefore and repent; behold I stand at the door and knock" (Rev. III., 19-20); on the left hand: "Then spake Jesus again": "I am the Light of the World." (John VIII., 12.) The upper part contains representations of the Dove, the Cherubim, the Vine, the Rose of Sharon, and Lily of the Valley, and at the bottom of the window is the announcement that "This window was furnished with its present glass in the Summer of 1862 by Parishioners of Thurlaston, in grateful acknoledgement of the restoration of their Church."

The Churchyard was next set in order, the various footpaths crossing it from north to south were done away with, and the *New Road* made as its western

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boundary; and in 1864 the stone wall, with low iron railing, was built and completed on the south side.

On February 29th, 1864, the Revd. Joseph Arkwright, formerly Rector and Patron, whose residence during his connection with Thurlaston had been divided between Normanton Hall and Mark Hall near Harlow in Essex, died, and was interred at Latton in the latter county.

It was in June, 1866, that Mr. Matthew Bloxam, F.S.A., of whom I have already spoken, read his Paper at the Meeting of the Leicestershire Archæological Society at Market Harborough, in which, amongst others, he described two of the monuments in this Church. He spoke with pleasure of a visit he had made here on the 18th of that month, and of the contrast in the improved state of the Church with its condition when he visited it thirty-five years before; when he first saw it, the nave had been rebuilt in the "style of the time," with plain palladium windows, and mainly of brick; but was now properly restored, at considerable expense, more consistently, in the "Decorated" style. He noticed, with satisfaction, the opening out of the Chantry, and better preservation of the remaining effigies.

In this same year (1866) an effort was made in various ways to obtain a new Church Clock, which arrived from Messrs. Benson, in London, on the last day of the year, and was set to work by the 26th day of January, 1867.

About this time, as the result of the gradual breaking up of the Grundy property in this Parish, the New Hall Park estate was offered for sale. It was bought by H. L. Powys-Keck, Esq., and exchanged by him with the Trustees of the Charity known as Mr. Smith's Charity, from which this Parish has received an annual subscription of £5 to the Schools.

The exchange was made in order to secure some property belonging to the Charity which cut into Mr. Powys-Keck's estate at Stoughton; and as by the terms

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of the founder, the Trustees were not allowed to sell any land, the New Hall Park estate, including Hoe Fields, was given up to them, in exchange for the Stoughton lands. The Trustees of Smith's Charity, the present agents for which are Messrs. Warren, Great Russell Street, London, are therefore now the owners of this old estate, which carries with it the manorial rights of the Parish of Thurlaston in succession to the Turvilles, the former lords of the manors.

The farm-house at Hoe Fields was rebuilt in 1869. Mr. William Worswick, the owner of the Normanton estate died October 14th, 1871, and was buried at the Monastery of St. Bernard in this County; he was succeeded in the property by his son, Colonel Richard Worsley Worswick, the present lord of the manor.

In 1876, the Revd. G. E. Bruxner resigned the living of Thurlaston, and in his capacity of patron appointed as his successor the Revd. Franklin Tonkin, M.A., who, in October of that year, took up his residence in the newly-built Rectory in the centre of the village. His self-denying efforts in the Church and Parish are no doubt still remembered. During his incumbency various gifts were made to the Church, the chief of which was the jewelled brass cross for the sanctuary, presented by Mrs. Henderson, a member of his family.

That the darker phases of crime are not always confined to large cities, but may, though happily very seldom, be experienced even in a quiet country parish, was proved by the fact that on May 6th, 1880, a man named Henry Davies, only recently married, murdered his wife in Church Street, and afterwards killed himself. The unfortunate man was a stranger in the parish, but his victim belonged to an old Thurlaston family. The usual morbid curiosity was evinced on the day of the funeral, by the immense crowd of strangers who assembled to witness the proceeding.

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The Revd. Franklin Tonkin in the same month resigned his Rectory of Thurlaston, and accepted the Vicarage of his native place, Madron, in Cornwall. He was succeeded here by the Revd. William Townshend, M.A., the present Rector of Thurlaston, who was inducted December 9th, 1880.

This is a history of the past rather than of persons still surviving; the very least, however, that can be said about the progress of the Church and Parish during the last seventeen years is, that whether, on the one hand, by the increase of church services, and their being more and more adapted in character to present needs, or on the other hand, in the promotion of Bible Classes, Mothers' Meetings, Reading Room, Village Library, and so many other means of drawing parishioners together for profitable instruction and social intercourse, every effort has been made to continue and build upon the work of those who have gone before. Of some particular improvements in the Church itself and events in the Parish we have yet to speak.

In this year (1881) was added to the other benefactions connected with the Parish, the one known as the Hyde Charity, in memory of one interested in the Parish, consisting of an investment of £600, in the name of the Charity Commissioners; of which the Interest, amounting to £24 annually, is applied in equal portions to the expenses of maintaining the Church Fabric and Churchyard, and to those of the Village Schools; in both cases at the discretion of the Rector and Churchwardens for the time being.

The better lighting of the Church was now provided for by the introduction of the new suspending lamps; those in the Chancel, with the brass standards within the altar rails, being given by Mrs. Townshend; and those in the body of the Church by Miss Bruxner.

At the beginning of the year 1882, the old ring of three

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bells was changed into a peal of five. A description of the way in which this was done by Messrs. Taylor & Sons, Bellfounders, of Loughborough, will be found in Appendix (I., O.), showing the connection of the old with the new bells. The opening day for the new peal was Sexagesima Sunday, February 12th, 1882, when the preacher was the Hon. and Revd. A. Byron; and it may now be said that, for the number of bells, those of Thurlaston Church will bear favourable comparison with any in the immediate district.

Shortly after this, the three south windows of the Chancel were filled with well-executed designs, representing the Annunciation, the Presentation in the Temple, and the Adoration of the Magi.

In November of the same year the new Reredos, costing £100, was given by the Patron, and supplied by Messrs. Law & King of Lutterworth; as well as an oak Altar, which cost £20. In the autumn of 1883, the decoration of the east end of the Chancel was undertaken by Messrs. Heaton, Butler & Bayne, consisting of a system of stencilled colouring, and the figures of Moses and Elias placed on each side of the large central window.

In October, 1884, a Reading and Recreation Room was established; this, with its companion institution the Village Library, which, after many years of care and revision, has become a valuable collection of interesting books, is kept up for the benefit of those who care to avail themselves of these advantages, at a very small rate of payment. While it must be confessed that such institutions, in this as well as in other parishes, are not so much appreciated as it might be supposed they would be, there is no doubt that several parishioners of both sexes and various ages have derived pleasure and instruction by becoming members of either one or the other.

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In 1886, the new Organ, the successor of a much inferior one, was given by Miss Bruxner. It was built by Messrs. Peter Conacher & Co. of Huddersfield, and opened on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, on Sunday, October 3rd. (Appendix I., P.)

On that day, the Choir first appeared in surplices (cassocks being afterwards added); and the preacher was the then Archdeacon of Buckingham, now the Right Revd. Dr. Randall, Bishop Suffragan of Reading.

The celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee of 1887 (though in some measure eclipsed by the more striking Commemoration of the Sixtieth year of Her Reign) cannot be forgotten; and at any rate must recall the memory of Mr. Benjamin Pigott Smith, formerly of Birmingham, who on that occasion acted as Secretary and Treasurer of the Festival Committee; and who, during his short residence at Thurlaston, until his death on December 17th, 1888, in the office of Churchwarden, and in general undertakings, thoroughly identified himself with the interests of the Church and Parish.

On March 29th of the following year (1889), after a long period of more or less suffering, Mr. Joseph Mudford, who had for thirty-seven years held the office of Rector's Warden, also passed away with the regard of all who knew him, whether as employer of labour, or in his official connection with the Parish during so many important changes.

On December 29th of the same year, after a very short illness, at the early age of 13 years, occurred the death of the Rector's eldest son, Edward Dorning Townshend, who was interred in the Churchyard on the following New Year's Day, his place of rest now being marked by a white marble cross.

A renewed interest in the Dedication Festival of the Church was awakened in 1890, when the Rector organised a representative Committee of Parishioners to carry

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out a series of suitable entertainments during the Feast, or Wakes Week, as innocent diversion after the special services of the Dedication Day and Sunday. This effort to bring again a proper sense of the responsibilities and privileges now falling to our lot, as a consequence of the founding of All Saints' Church over 750 years ago, has been continued year by year up to the present one; and has on the whole met with success.

It was on Friday evening, November 13th, 1891, when the pleasures of the Feast Week were drawing to a close, that the Revd. George Edward Bruxner, formerly Rector and afterwards Patron of the Church, and for some years Parish Warden, passed away, after a very few days of real illness, aged 79 years; and was interred near other members of his family close to the path leading from the lych-gate to the Tower. Very much might be written about the strong personality of this venerable friend of Thurlaston, and his many gifts and works for the service of the Church. It cannot be better summed up than in words placed on the memorial erected on the south wall of the nave: "by past and present parishioners in grateful remembrance of a generous benefactor," and in the text on his tomb: "Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy House, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth."

The Parish Memorial to Mr. Bruxner consists of a slab of Derby fossil granite, in which a brass plate bearing the inscription, surmounted by a cross of *fleur de lis* design, is inlaid. The border, also of brass, terminates at the corners with emblems of the four Evangelists, and the whole execution is artistic and neat. It was completed in May, 1892, by Messrs. Hardman of Birmingham.

The present sum of £400 (with an additional £600, subject to future conditions), the interest of which is secured in equal portions to the Church and the Schools, by the will of Mr. Bruxner, under the name of the

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"Bruxner Legacy," is yet another gift for which the Parish is indebted to him. With his death, succeeded by so many of his contemporaries in various circumstances of life, very many of the old parochial conditions appear to have passed away. From 1894, whether for good or evil, rapid changes have been made in the local government of our land; and Thurlaston has already experienced for some years the administration of its successive Parish Councils.

On November 10th, 1894, the Revd. Franklin Tonkin, formerly Rector of Thurlaston, died at his Vicarage of Madron in Cornwall, leaving a widow and eight children.

The wide subject of Friendly Societies I have left to the year 1895, when the local Lodge of Oddfellows, No. 836 Branch of the Manchester Unity, attained and celebrated its Jubilee on July 22nd. On that occasion, of the five members who inaugurated its existence fifty years before, two only survived to be present; these were Messrs. Thomas Lea and Thomas Taylor, both of whom have since died. That the Pride of Thurlaston Lodge has throughout its career experienced almost unvarying and steadily increasing prosperity, placing it in this respect at the head of all Lodges in the Leicester District, is mainly owing to the interest in its early development and the care taken for its investment of capital by that same generous benefactor, who became Rector of the Parish in the year the Lodge commenced its existence. Of the other Friendly Societies which have during the nineteenth century flourished in this parish as local Sick Clubs, it may be said that each in turn served its purpose in promoting the principles of thrift and benevolence; and if some of them in the end unavoidably came to grief, it was in some measure at least, if not altogether, owing to the want in the beginning of the actuarial experience showing the Mortality and Sickness rates and averages, which have been so

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useful in more recent years as a guide for the construction of correct tables of Contributions, Benefits, Assets and Liabilities. The former strength and prosperity of the old Thurlaston Male and Female Friendly Societies, and the happy annual meeting of old and distant friends at the Whitsuntide holiday (which the Oddfellows are endeavouring to keep up) will long be remembered amongst the past institutions of the Parish.

On January 10th, 1896, Mrs. Maria Bruxner, widow of the late Patron of the Church, died at Bath, aged 81 years, and is interred in this churchyard by the side of her husband.

With the record of 1897, the Diamond Jubilee Year of Queen Victoria, this History must be brought to a close. Since this narrative was begun, a visit I have been able to make to the British Museum, and an extensive search in the Reading Room of that great National institution, convinces me that I have now brought together all the *authentic* information that it is possible to obtain concerning the past history of Thurlaston, unless it be from some future very unexpected source. All the statements here made can be proved from well-known authorities (a list of which I give for reference if desired). Nothing is recorded from mere hearsay evidence, and the one or two points which I have put rather in the shape of conjecture (as in the case of the Founder of the Church and of the Chantry), are well supported by at least circumstantial proof. (Appendix I., R.)

On Sunday, June 20th, was celebrated throughout our Empire the fact that our Gracious Queen had reached the Sixtieth Anniversary of her Accession Day, and had thus already reigned longer than any other English Sovereign. The bright Thanksgiving Services of the day, with the special expressions of prayer and praise, were a suitable expression to Almighty God of our gratitude for this great blessing. The Commemoration

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Festival, held here on the following Tuesday, and arranged as far as possible on the lines of the former one, was a great success, giving many workers of various opinions an opportunity of co-operating cheerfully on common ground to give pleasure to all.

The early peal of bells, the Union Jack on the tower, the procession to Church, the singing of the National Anthem at the entrance, the hearty service in which so many joined, the short sermon given by special request, and the grand acclaim of the Old Hundredth Psalm, coinciding so nearly with the personal presence of Her Majesty at S. Paul's Cathedral, were a fitting prelude to the lighter recognition of the day in the social dinner and tea and after amusements. It is not likely that such another national event will occur during the lifetime of any person now living, even of the younger generations; but a lasting remembrance of the year will long remain in the extensive work undertaken at the old Parish Church. The new brass plate in the Tower, bearing the names of the Rector and of the Churchwardens for the year (Messrs. William and Joseph Taylor), declares that "To the Glory of God and in grateful remembrances of blessings to the Church and Nation during sixty years of Queen Victoria's Reign, this Tower was restored, 1897."

This restoration of the Tower, following the necessary repairs and renovation of the exterior of the North Aisle in the earlier summer months, was a work greatly needed and thoroughly carried out. It included not only the complete pointing from the summit to the ground, but the putting in of a large quantity of new stone, particularly in the upper part; the replacing of the stone mullions in the belfry windows, fixing of a new lightning conductor and steel flag-staff, repairing of the clock with re-gilding of dials and hands and of the weathercock, and the purchase of a red ensign for use on special

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occasions. The tower entrance was also greatly improved by the fixing of new outer and inner oak doors, the latter fixed in a screen of the same material, and fitted with cathedral glass and patent springs.

In addition to the work in the Tower itself, some needful repairs and cleaning in the Nave were undertaken; a new Litany Desk, Alms Box, Litany Book, and Book and brass book stand for the Altar were presented; and on the afternoon of November 18th, a special evensong was held, at which the newly appointed Lord Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Revd. the Hon. Edward Carr-Glynn, twenty-eighth bishop of the See, and the fifth since Thurlaston has been attached to that diocese, dedicated the renewed work and preached the sermon.

The whole undertaking was under the superintendence of Stockdale Harrison, Esqr., Architect, of Leicester, and was executed by the tradesmen of the parish and neighbourhood, Messrs. E. Taylor and Sons, W. Hurd, and J. Taylor, junr., of Thurlaston, with Mr. H. Baker, stone-mason, of Narborough; the various accessories required being supplied by well-known firms.

Upwards of £300 was spent in the work, a large portion of the money being obtained by means of the extra Sunday collections, thus giving all parishioners alike the opportunity and privilege of contributing and joining in the effort to save from decay, and improve, the sacred edifice bequeathed to them by their forefathers; and as, from time to time, they approach the House of God, the centre of their village life and history, and pass

"Through gate, and porch, and column'd aisle,"

they may recall, with gratitude, the memory of the worthy men of old, who, under much greater difficulties, in the less civilized times, but having a deep sense of their duty to God and the King, and of the responsibilities of their position, laboured and gave of their substance for the benefit of generations yet unborn.

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If we wish for a sentiment which may form a worthy conclusion to the History of Thurlaston, we cannot find a better one than by another reference to the Tablet on the South Wall of the Nave, where, in the words selected from the ninetieth Psalm (verse 16), expression and emphasis are given to the connection of the far past with the present, and of the present with the distant future :—

"SHEW THY SERVANTS THY WORK,
AND THEIR CHILDREN THY GLORY."

Postscript, 1904.

It will be seen that it was the original intention to publish this book at the close of the year 1897. The unavoidable delay which prevented its being completed in its present form, has, however, given opportunity for some revision, with a few additions made chiefly at the suggestion of the Venerable Archdeacon Stocks, who kindly gave his valuable opinion on the work. The Very Reverend Dean Randall, on his visit to the Church last year, suggested that the "Cromwell" mentioned in the tradition connected with the large alabaster altar-tomb might be not "*Oliver Cromwell*," but "*Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex*," the chief agent employed by Henry VIII. in the supression of the monasteries; and though there is no evidence that Essex carried on any military operations in this immediate neighbourhood, the idea is worth consideration, seeing that his career coincided more nearly with the date of the monument than did that of Oliver Cromwell.

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I am much indebted to Mrs. Bruxner-Randall for the privilege of copying the engraved plates in her possession, the sketches of which appear in Appendix II.

It is not necessary to dwell in detail on the recent events, well remembered, of the years succeeding 1897. It has been a period of anxiety for the Nation, the Parish, and for individual families; there have been the dark days of war, of bereavement, and of other adversities; as well as the brighter ones of national and personal rejoicings for renewed blessings. Almost with the commencement of the new century began the reign of a new Sovereign; legislative and social changes come in rapid succession; and the strenuous life of the present day forms a striking contrast to that of former ages,

But whatever may be the course of national or parochial conditions in the near or distant future, those who have faith in the foundation laid in the past may look forward with trustful confidence for the time to come, as expressed in the words with which this History properly closes:—

"Shew Thy servants Thy work,
And their children Thy Glory."

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APPENDIX I.

Miscellaneous Extracts and Descriptions.

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A.

Confirmatio Witblafii Regis Merciorum Monasterio de Croyland.

(Monasticon Anglicanum, by Sir William Dugdale, Knight Garter Principal King at Arms.)

Vol. II., pages 109-110, Num. VIII.

"Item donum Normanni quondam vicecomitis in Sutton juxta Bosworthe, duas carucatas terrae et unum molendinum ventricium. Item donum ejusdem Normanni in Stapilton, viz., manerium et duas carucatas terrae. Item donum ejusdem in Badby, viz., quotuos hidas terrae cum appendiciis."

The "Confirmatio Beorredi Regis Merciorum de omnibus Terris et Tenementis Abbatiae de Croyland" (Num. X.) "de dono Normanni quondum *vicedomini*" is in similar terms to the above.

B.

Domesday Book.

Leicestershire, XXIX. Terra Goisfridi de Wirce.

"Goisfridus de Wirce tenet de rege
iii carucatas terrae in Stantone.
Hanc terram dedit rex Willielmus
Goisfrido pro commutatione
Villae quae vocatur *Turchilestone*."

"Albericus (Aubrey) tenet de Goisfrido in Niwetone vi carucatas terrae. . . . Haec quoque terra est de commutatione *Turchilestone*."

"Almoldus tenet de Goisfrido in Wicu i carucatum terrae et dimidiam. . . . Hae duae terrae sunt de commutatione *Turchilestone*, ut homines Goisfridi dicunt.

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A398

C.

Matriculas of Bishop Wells, 1220.

(Extract.)

"Ecclesiae de Thurleston patronus Robertus de Campana; persona Henri institutus per H. quandam Lincoln; et pertinent ad illam ecclesiam omnes decimae garbarum et lini de feodo Roberti de Campana in supradictus villis de minutis decimis, et alius pertinentibus ut supra. Monachi de Sancto Ebrulpho percipiunt ibi duos solidos pro decimis de dominico comitis."

D.

Some old Records of Presentations, &c.

(From the Lincoln Registers.)

12

"Magister Hug' de Stanford ad ecclesiam de Thurkeleston, ad praesentationem Petri prioris de Ware, procuratoris generalis abbatis et conventûs Sancti Ebrulfi in Anglià. Testibus, Magisters G de Weseham, W. de Pok, et N Greco, canon' Lincoln; Dominus Gilk' de Wicamb' et Ric' de Pok', capellanis; B de Burgo, P de Stanf', R de Fretwell, E de Hertford, clericus. Dat. 16 kal' Feb.; Pont' 12 (dors)."

"Robertus de Blaby, capellanus, ad ecclesiam de Waleton, vacant per resignationem Hugonis de Stanford, ad praesentationem Hugonis de Turvill laici."

1250.

"Magister T de Caytorp, subdiaconus, ad ecclesiam de Thurleston, ad praesentationem domini Roberti de Campana. (Inquisit' per J archidiac' Leic')."

Revd. Edward Robynson. (1558.)

"Presbyter, non conjugatus; doctus, residet; hospitalis; dèget abidem; non licentiatus; praedicat' in suâ cur'; duo beneficia habet, et habet dispensationem ex lite."

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E.

Inquisition—Edward I, 1270.

—

(Extract.)

—

"Thurleston est de feodo Leic', et Robertus de Champaine tenet in eadem in dominico quatuor virgatas terre, cum advocatione ecclesie ejusdem. Item in villenagio duas virgatas terre et dimidian, quas tres servi tenent. Item in liberâ tenurâ unam virgatam terre. Item Robertus de Scheffington tenet in eadem de eodum feodo, nomine dotis uxoris sue, tres virgatas terre, et unum molendinum, ventriticum, in dominico. Item in liberâ tenurâ novem virgatas terre, quas quinque liberi tenentes tenent de dicto Roberto. Item Radulphus Turvile tenet in eadem tres virgatas terre, quas tres liberi tenentes tenent. Et dicti Robertus de Champaine et Radulphus tenent tenuram dictam de com' Leic' et com' de rege. Et emit scutagium dicto com' quantum pertinet ad dictum tenementum."

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F.

Inquisition 7 Edward, 1279.

(Extract.)

"Normanton Turvile est de feodo Leic' et Radulphus Turvile, qui est in custodiâ dicti comitis, habet in eadem quinque virgatas terre in dominico, et duo molendina, ventriticum et aquaticum. Item in villenagio tres virgatas terre et dimidian, quas servi sui tenent. Item in liberâ tenurâ duas virgatas terre, quas duo liberi tenentes tenent. Et dictus Radulphus habet quinque cottagia, et quinque cottarii tenent. Habet etiam parcum qui vocatur Brokensale. Et dictus Radulphus tenet dictam tenuram de comes Leic' et com' de rege. Item Robertus de Champaine habet in eadem sex virgatas terre in villenagio, quas octo servi tenent. Item in liberâ tenurâ quatuor virgatas terre, quas tres liberi tenentes tenent de dicto Roberto, et unum cotagium. Et dictus Robertus tenet dictam tenuram de com' Leic' et com' ut supra. Johannes de Ses habet in eadem quatuor virgatas terre in liberô tenurâ, quas tres liberi tenentes tenent. Et dictus Johannes tenet dictam tenuram de Willielmo de Radulpho Turvile, et dictus Radulphus de comite Leic' et com' de rege. Et sciendum quod predictus Radulphus Turvile, Robertus Champaine, et Johannes de Ses, tenent dictam tenuram de scutagio et servicio pro duabus partibus unius fœdi militis de dicto com'. De warrenâ, et chaceâ, et aliis capitulis, nihil."

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G.

The Genealogy of the Champaine Family.

(In so far as it affects the Parish of Thurlaston.)

Hugh de Champaine (1140).

Nicholas de Champaine of Thurleston.

Sir Robert de Champaine, knight, 1224.

Robert de Champaine, 1296.

Sir Robert Champaine, knight, 1336.

Robert Champaine, of Thurleston.

Margaret Champaine, married Robert Foucher.	Sir William Champaine, lord of Thurleston in 1353.
Margaret Foucher, married Geoffrey Bouge, was one of the heirs of Margaret de Soulney.	Margaret Champaine, married to Robert de Hastings. Margaret Hastings, married to Sir John de Soulney, knight. died 1381, without issue.

This list is compiled from the Visitation Book of Leicestershire, by Samson Leonard, Bluemantle, and Augustine Vincent, Rouge-dragon, Officers of Arms, 1619, in the Library of New College, Oxford.

It comprises the names of the first Patrons of Thurlaston Church, the first on the list being without much doubt the Founder of the old Norman edifice.

It shows how, when the direct male line became extinct, the family rights passed through the elder (female) branch to that of *Bouge*, by the marriage of Margaret Foucher to Geoffrey Bouge of Leke, in the County of Northampton.

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H.

The Genealogy of the Bouge Family.

(In so far as it affects the Parish of Thurlaston.)

Geoffrey Bouge of Leke, co. Northampton, married Margaret Foucher, the heiress of the Champagne Family, in 1381.

- Richard Bouge.
- Walter Bouge.
- Geoffrey Bouge, son and heir.
 - Geoffrey Bouge, son and heir.
 - Edmund Bouge, late of Westerlock, co. Northampton, and of Thurleston, married Felix, daughter of Henry Brokesby, Esq., of Showerby.
 - Baldwin Bouge, of Leke and Thurleston. died 1435.
 - Baldwin Bouge, son and heir, died also 1435.
 - Margaret Bouge, sister and heiress of Baldwin Bouge, had three husbands, (1) Richard Turville, of Normanton, died 1414. (2) Reginald Moton of Peckleton. (3) Sir Thomas Everingham.

See the Pedigree of Turville, from Richard Turville (1414) the founder of the New Hall Park Mansion.

This list is compiled from the Visitation Book of Leicestershire, by Sampson Leonard, Bluemantle, and Augustine Vincent, Rouge-dragon, Officers of Arms, 1619, in the Library of New College, Oxford.

It forms the connecting link between the old families of *Champaine* of Thurleston and *Turville* of Normanton Turville.

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I. The Genealogy of the Turvile Family.

(In so far as it affects the Parish of Thurlaston.)

William de Tourville (1066).

Ralph de Turvile of Normanton.

William de Turvile.

Sir Hamo de Turvile.

William de Turvile.

Nicholas Turvile and Hugh de Turvile, 1235.

Ralph Turvile, 1297.

Sir Richard Turvile of Normanton, knight.

Hugh Turvile died 1347. His wife Agnes, died 1349.

Ralph T. of Normanton, 1392.

Richard—Adam—Roger. 1393. of Thrlstn, 1370.

Richard T. of Normanton, married the daughter of Sir Wm. Flamvile.

William T. of Thurleston.

Richard T. of Normanton, married died 1414. Margaret Bouge.

William Turvile of N. and Thn., married Elizabeth Fouleshurst. died 1457.

John Turvile of N., Thn., and New Hall, married Katherine Staunton. died 1509.

Sir William Turvile, knight, died 1549.

John Turvile of Thn. and New Hall.

Richard Turvile of Thn. and Normntn., married Jane Babington. died 1564.

Edward Turvile of Thn., died 1584. died 1619.

Henry Turvile of Thn., died 1635.

John Turvile, 1703.

John Turvile, 1725.

Edward Turvile.

(Revd.) Edward Turvile and Elizabeth Turvile, Rector of Thn., died 1757. died Septr., 1776.

This list is from the one compiled by Sampson Leonard and Augustine Vincent, Officers of Arms, 1619, and the Chetwynd MS., supplemented in the earlier portion from Burke's Commoners and Nichols' Bibliotheca.

Those whose names are underlined are *known* to have been interred in Thurlaston Church.

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J.

The Genealogy of the Rooe Family.

(In so far as it affects the Parish of Thurlaston.)

William del Rowe of Macclesfield (time of Edward I.).

Wm. del Rowe

John Row. | Richard del Row. | Henry. | Alice. | Marian.

Stephen del Row, died 1437.

Roger de Row. | Thomas Row, son and heir, esquire of the body to Edward IV.

Roger Roe, esqr., slain at Flodden Field, 1513.

Thomas Row, son and heir, died 1543. | Francis Row, 1537.

John Rowe, died 1569.

John Rowe, died 1618.

Roger Rooe, died 1613, married Catherine Cotes.

John Rooe of Normanton Turville, died 1653. | married Catherine, daughter of George Turville.

Thomas Rooe, died at Bassett House, 1644. | Roger Rooe, of Normanton Turville, died 1707.

John Rooe, died 1681. | Christopher Rooe, died 1754. | Dorothy. | Margery. | Isabella, married Edward Berrisford.

Anne Berrisford, married George Yeo.

Edward Rooe-Yeo, died 1782.

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K.

Terrier of the Rectory of Thurlston.

Diocese of Lincoln.

(*Two Parchment Copies, dated 1768 and 1788.*)

NAMES OF FURLONGS.

ENDERBY FIELD :—Saltwell Furlong.
Middle Furlong.
Flag Pit Furlong.
Next the flam ley.
Nether furlong near longhedge.
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Lammas Close End.
Mony Leys.
Clay Piece
Enderby Road Foot
Cross Road Foot
Enderby House Land.
Cross Slades.
1 — 10
High thorn Furlong,
Shooting to Enderby Road.
Cross to Enderby Road.
Shooting to Huncote Lane.
Brand Nook Furlong.
Shooting to Huncote Lane.
Shooting to Mixt Land,
by the Mixt Land side
The Ash Tree Furlong.
Oak Tree Furlong.
Shooting into the Slade
Long Mixed Land Furlong.
Shooting into the Little Meadow.
Shooting into the Bogs
Rushy Leys.

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Terrier of the Rectory of Thurlston—continued.

NAMES OF FURLONGS IN THE FOREST FIELD:—

Grove Leys	Sneap Furlong
Butt Nook Furlong	Hill Furlong
Horse Head Furlong	Underhill Furlong
Town's End Furlong	Gillings Piece
Yard's End Furlong	Furlong surting to the lane
Hill Furlong	

The Little Field	Two Forest Closes
Middle Shoot	The Little Clap Close
Little Meadow Shoot	The Long Close
Cross lanes Shoot	The Pear Tree Close
Yard End Furlong	The Homestead

In the Pole Meadow.
The Tythe Piece being moveable,
one year about and changes alternately.

In the Nether Field	Rye piece Furlong
Clap Close Furlong	Mill
Slad Furlong	Nether Would
Water Furrow	Middle Would
Sweeting Tree	Top Woulds
Gib pitt furlong	Broad Meadow furlong
Butts furlong	

Short Hedge Furlong	Tree don Furlong

Town's End	Faden ley

House containing about 4 bays of building or thereabouts and two bays of Barning and a Bay for Stabling.

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L.

Psalm lxxiv.

The particular verses of this Psalm, to which allusion is made with reference to the sacrilege committed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in the sixteenth and by the Puritans in the sevententh century, are the following:—(Prayer Book Version.)

1. O God, wherefore art Thou absent from us so long: why is Thy wrath so hot against the people of Thy pasture?
2. O think upon Thy congregation: whom Thou hast purchased and redeemed of old.
3. Think upon the tribe of Thine inheritance: and mount Sion, wherein Thou hast dwelt.
4. Lift up Thy feet, that Thou mayest utterly destroy every enemy: which hath done evil in Thy sanctuary.
5. Thine adversaries roar in the midst of Thy congregations: and set up their banners for tokens.
6. **He that hewed timber afore out of the thick trees: was known to bring it to an excellent work.**
7. But down they break down all the carved work thereof: with axes and hammers.
8. They have set fire upon Thy holy places: and have defiled the dwelling-place of Thy Name, even unto the ground.
9. Yea, they said in their hearts, Let us make havoc of them altogether: thus have they burnt up all the houses of God in the land.

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M.

Inscription

On a white marble mural monument in the south aisle of Austrey Church, Warwickshire.

SACRED

TO THE MEMORY OF

THE REVD. THOMAS SLADE, M.A.,

VICAR OF THIS PARISH XXXI YEARS;

BORN OCTOBER XXIII, MDCCCXLVII,

DIED MAY VIII, MDCCCXXIV.

AS A TOKEN OF RESPECT

FOR HIS TRULY CHRISTIAN CHARACTER,

HIS PIETY & ZEAL AS A MINISTER,

HIS INTEGRITY,

AND UNBOUNDED BENEVOLENCE OF HEART,

THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED

BY HIS CURATE AND PARISHIONERS,

MDCCCXXV.

The Revd. Thomas Slade succeeded to the Rectory of Thurlaston on the death of the Revd. Nathaniel Trotter, under whom he had formerly been Curate.

He was inducted as Rector here June 8th, 1798.

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N.

The Church Plate.

The Communion Plate now used in this Church, which was purchased partly with the proceeds of the sale of some older vessels, including those given by the two daughters of Roger Rooe; the remaining expense being defrayed by the Revd. G. E. Bruxner,—is thus described by the Revd. Anthony Trollope in his book on this subject :—

Silver Cup—Weight 15·4 ozs., Height 7⅜in., Diameter of bowl 3⅞in.; of the foot 5⅛in. Height of stem 5in. Date 1861. London Hall marks. This cup has a globular-shaped bowl, and hexagonal stem, knob, and foot. The latter is shaped into six lobes, with the sacred monogram on one of them.

Silver Paten—Weight 3·9 ozs., Diameter 5½in. Date 1861. This paten has a flat wide edge, round which is "O Lamb of God," &c. In the centre is the Agnus Dei within a circle, gilt.

Silver Flagon—Weight 21·5 ozs., Height 11¾in., Diameter at the top 2⅛in.; of the foot 4in. Date 1861. This is a jug-shaped flagon, with an ornamental band round the neck, and round the middle "Glory be to God on high." The handle at each end terminates in a fleur-de-lis.

Another Flagon, still in existence, is thus described: *Silver-Plated Flagon*—Height 11½in., Diameter at top 4¾in., at foot 6¾in. This is a large straight-sided flagon, made of pewter silver-plated. It has some embossed foliage on the top of its handle. Round the edge of the foot is, "Thurlaston Church, 15 Feby., 1842, William Willey and James Pougher, Churchwardens."

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O.

The Old Church Bells.

1.—Old Treble, bearing the following lettering :—

"Omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei: Gloria Deo Soli:
T. Eayre, A:D: 1746."

2.—Old Bell, bearing mysterious lettering :—

✣ EHOBV ✣ EHOBV ✣ EHOBV ✣

This bell, one of Thomas Newcombe's castings, was broken up in 1882, being considered unfit for further use.

3.—Old Tenor Bell (formerly Note A). Inscription :—

"Soli . deo . Gloria . ɾ . Pax . ɾ .
Hominibus ɾ 1653. ɾ J. M."

The weight of these bells can only be estimated by their dimensions. Many old bells of sonorous tone were over-estimated in weight, and the Tenor bell in country villages, mostly called "the big bell," was often proudly spoken of as being "*a ton weight*," when it might not be more than half that amount. The mistake arose partly from the richness of tone in the old bell metal, and partly because decayed frames and rusted bearings made them harder to ring.

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The New Peal of Five (1882).

1.—New Treble. Note C.

Diameter (at mouth), 2ft. 7½in. Weight, 6cwts. 3qrs. 13lbs.

Inscription—an abbreviation of that on the Tenor Bell.

2.—The old Bell mentioned opposite, tuned to B♭.

Diameter, 2ft. 9in. *Estimated* Weight, 7¾cwts.

3.—New Bell, cast in place of the one mentioned opposite. Note A.

Diameter, 2ft. 11in. Weight, 9cwts. 2lbs.

Inscription—like that on the Treble Bell.

4.—The old Bell mentioned opposite, tuned to Note G. (Still the hour-bell of the Clock.)

Diameter, 3ft. 5in. *Estimated* Weight, 13cwts.

5.—New Tenor Bell. Note F.

Diameter, 3ft. 8in. Weight, 17cwts. 4lbs.

Inscription: "J: Taylor & Co., Bellfounders, Loughborough · Leicestershire.

G. E. Bruxner, J. Mudford } Churchwardens.

W. Townshend · Rector.

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P.

The Church Organ (1886).

The following plan shows the arrangement of the stops, the number of pipes connected with each, and the compass of the instrument.

Swell Organ.
(Upper Manual.)

—

Oboe
56
Piccolo
Gemshorn
56
56
Voix Celeste
Salcional
44
56
Rohr Flöte
Violin Diapason
56
56

—

Couplers.

Swell to Pedals.
Swell to Great.
Great to Pedals.

Great Organ.
(Lower Manual.)

—

Principal
Harmonic
56
Flute, 56
Dulciana
56
Gamba
44
Clarabella
Stop Diapason
Treble
Bass.
44
12
Open Diapason
56

—

Pedal Organ.

Bourdon
29

SUMMARY.

Great Organ Pipes ...	...	...	324
Swell Organ Pipes ...	...	...	383
Pedal Organ Pipes ...	...	...	29
Total Pipes	...	...	736

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Q.

The Thurlaston Tradition.

This tradition, which on account of its peculiarity I have thought better to place by itself, has apparently been received with credulity in the Parish for some time past. It is to the effect, as far as can be made out from the various accounts given, that the knight and lady depicted on the large alabaster tomb in the Church, represent persons who with their children (shown by the figures on the sides) were killed in the time of Oliver Cromwell by cannon shot from Enderby Hill as they sat at dinner in an old mansion on what is known as Castle Pit, an eminence to the north of the village. Another version is that the disaster was caused by a hurricane. After making much enquiry and search for some written or printed proof of the story, I regret to find that no such account is in existence, and in considering all points connected with the tradition it seems reasonable to arrive at the following conclusions :—

1.—That as the tomb is that of John Turvile, who died 1509, any disaster of the kind must have been before the time of Oliver Cromwell, who lived from 1599 to 1658, and began his military career in 1642.

2.—There is no mention of John Turvile dying other than a natural death, and there was no civil war at the time.

3.—That Baldwin Bouge, who died in 1435, his only son Baldwin dying in the same year, is the most likely person to have been the subject of a tragedy, from the attention called to his memory ; but no proof is forthcoming of this, and *his* tomb has long since been destroyed.

4.—That if the deaths really occurred in the manner mentioned, a confusion of dates and monuments has taken place in the oral handing down of the story by persons ignorant of history.

5.—That as the old lords of the manor had evidently a mansion in the Parish apart from the one at Normanton Turvile, it is possible that the New Hall built by Richard Turvile before 1414 was the successor of an Old Hall demolished at Castle Pit.

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List of Authorities.

The following, besides many others, on Church and General History, Heraldry, Armour, Costume, &c., have been the chief books consulted in compiling this History :—

Place Names in Leicestershire, by Dr. Henry Barber, Chaplain of Ravenstone Hospital, 1888.

The History and Antiquities of the Town and County of Leicester, by John Nichols, 1795—1811.

Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica, by J. Nichols, 1790.

Description of Leicestershire, by Wm. Burton, 1622.

Magna Britannia, by Revd. Thomas Cox, 1720.

Topograpical Histories of the County of Leicester—
by G. A. Cooke, 1838.
by Revd. T. Curtis, 1831.
and by T. E. Britton, 1810.

Visitation of Leicestershire, by Camden, 1619.

Visitation by the Venerable Archdeacon Bonney, 1832-42.

Transactions of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archælogical Society.—Reports, 1866, &c.

Domesday Book (1086), the reproduced Edition by Photozincography, 1862.

Documents relating to Leicestershire, preserved in the Registry at Lincoln
The Earliest Lay Subsidy Roll.
Notes of Leicestershire Inquisitions
} by Revd. Wm. Dimock Fletcher.

Memoirs of the Town and County of Leicester and Select Views in Leicestershire, by John Throsby, 1777-89.

Fædera, &c., 1654, by T. Rymer.

Monumental Effigies of Great Britain, by G. A. Stothard.

Croyland Abbey. Revd. Wm. Stukeley's MSS. and Drawings, revised and edited by Revd. T. M. Gresley.

Monasticon Anglicanum, by Sir Wm. Dugdale.

The Church Bells of Leicestershire, by Thomas North, 1876.

An Inventory of the Church Plate of Leicestershire, by the Revd. Anthony Trollope.

Note.—Nichols' History is considered the best work of its kind in any County, and it is estimated that to produce a similar literary work would cost from £25,000 to £30,000.

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A List of Curates

Who have officiated at Thurlaston during the past 100 years (the approximate date being given of their first connection with the Parish, as shewn in the Church Registers).

For the Revd. Thomas Slade, Rector.

1807.—Revd. Wm. Thistlewaite.
1813.—Revd. Geo. Robinson.
1816.—Revd. Henry Hoare.

For the Revd. Joseph Arkwright, Rector.

1825.—Revd. Thomas Wilson.
1827.—Revd. George J. A. Drake.
1829.—Revd. Richard D. Wilson Taylor.
1842.—Revd. David L. Lewis.
,, —Revd. Alexander H. Small.

For the Revd. George Edward Bruxner, Rector.

1847.—Revd. Lucius Fry.
1853.—Revd. Thomas Philip Craven.
1859.—Revd. Alfred Vaughan Walters.
,, —Revd. George L. Ottley.
1862.—Revd. Leonidas Clint.
1863.—Revd. Charles Henton Wood.
1870.—Revd. James Payne.
1873.—Revd. James Marshall.
1876.—Revd. J. S. Ellis.

The following held the Office of Parish Clerk and Sexton during the Nineteenth Century:—

1810.—Charles Langham.—Died July 25th, 1816.
1816.—Michael Taylor (the elder).—Died Jany. 12th, 1838.
1838.—Michael Taylor (son of the above).—Died Oct. 13th, 1859.
1859.—Edward Tutt (resigned Easter, 1861).—Died Sept. 12th, 1887.
1861.—John Payne (resigned Easter, 1894).—Died Oct. 4th, 1899.

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A List of Churchwardens of Thurlaston

(Compiled from the old vestry books and other sources), during the past century. It is assumed that retiring ones were re-elected until a fresh name appears.

1787.—Thomas Smith and George Everard.
1788.—John Ellis and George Everard.
1790.—Thomas Gimson and George Everard.
1792.—Robert Buckley and George Everard.
1793.—Richard Everard and George Everard.
1795.—Richard Jesson and George Everard.
1796.—John Webb and George Everard.
1798.—Thomas Ellis and Richard Everard.
1799.—John Ellis and Richard Everard.
1800.—Joseph Gimson and Richard Everard.
1807.—Wm. Everard and Richard Everard.
1808.—Job Fox and Richard Everard.
1809.—Thomas Ellis and Richard Everard.
1810.—John Gregory and Wm. Pougher.
1811.—Robert Buckley and Wm. Pougher.
1812.—Wm. Oldacres and Wm. Pougher.
1813.—Job Fox and Wm. Pougher.
1814.—Joseph Gimson.
1815.—Job Fox and Richard Everard.
1818.—Edward Gregory and Joseph Gimson.
1834.—Francis Spencer and Wm. Everard.
1838.—Wm. Willey and Wm. Everard.
1843.—Joseph Gimson and Wm. Everard.
1846.—Thomas Everard and Joseph Gimson.
1851.—Thomas Everard and R. W. Arkwright.
1852.—Joseph Mudford and R. W. Arkwright.
1853.—Joseph Mudford and Everard Oldacres.
1861.—Joseph Mudford and W. H. Blunt.
1863.—Joseph Mudford and J. J. Huddlestone.
1866.—Joseph Mudford and Wm. Scott.
1878.—Joseph Mudford and (Revd.) G. E. Bruxner.
1887.—Benjamin Piggott Smith and G. E. Bruxner.
1889.—Joseph Shaw and G. E. Bruxner.
1891.—Revd. G. E. Bruxner and Wm. Taylor.
1892.—Joseph Shaw and Wm. Taylor.
1895.—Wm. Taylor and Joseph Taylor.

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List of Family Names.

(The following is a List of the older Surnames in the Parish during the past Century; some being now extinct, others still represented.)

Adams
Archer
Arkwright
Astill
Atkins
Bailey
Barton
Bates
Biddle
Biggs
Bott
Bruxner
Buckley
Burdett
Byles
Carter
Clarke
Colledge
Coller
Cooke
Cooper
Corbett
Cramp
Crampton
Dudley
Earl
Ellis
Everard
Farmer
Farr
Faulkes
Fox
Gamble
Garratt
Gilbert
Gimson
Gregory
Halford
Hall
Hancock
Harvey
Hinman
Hollis
Hurd
Hurst
Illson
Jackson
Kirby
Knight
Ladkin
Lamley
Langley
Lawson
Lea
Martin
Millis
Moore
Mudford
Murby
Neale
Newberry
Oldacres
Payne
Pegg
Pickering
Pingriff
Pinfold
Porter
Preston
Rayner
Ridgway
Riley
Smart
Smith
Spencer
Stanhope
Taylor
Trotter
Wallace
Wardle
Watson
Webster
West
Weston
Whitmill
Willett
Willey
Woodward
Wright

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The Population
OF
Thurlaston Parish,

(As shown in each Official Census during the Century.)

1801	...	361
1811	...	469
1821	...	540
1831	...	636
1841	...	694
1851	...	748
1861	...	698
1871	...	536
1881	...	536
1891	...	526

The decrease in the latter half, particularly in 1871, was attributed to the migration to the town for factory work.

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Inscription

On the Bruxner Memorial Tablet, placed on the South Wall of the Nave (as described on page 90).

TO THE GLORY OF GOD,
AND IN THANKFUL MEMORY OF THE REVD.
GEORGE EDWARD BRUXNER, M.A.,
CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD; FORMERLY
RECTOR OF THURLASTON, 1845 TO 1876,
AND CHURCH WARDEN, 1879 TO 1891;
BORN AT ST. PETERSBURG, SEPTR. 7., 1812,
DIED AT THE HOLT IN THIS PARISH, NOVR. 13, 1891
THIS MEMORIAL IS ERECTED IN ALL SAINTS'
CHURCH BY PAST AND PRESENT PARISHIONERS,
IN REMEMBRANCE OF A GENEROUS BENEFACTOR.

"SHEW THY SERVANTS THY WORK, & THEIR CHILDREN THY GLORY."

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Inscription

On a new Memorial Tablet, placed on the West Wall of the Nave, Easter, 1903.

TO THE GLORY OF GOD,

AND

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY ANNE,

WIFE OF THE REVD. WILLIAM TOWNSHEND,

RECTOR OF THURLASTON AND RURAL DEAN,

THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY

PAST AND PRESENT PARISHIONERS,

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

OF HER LIFE AND WORK AMONGST THEM,

1881—1901.

"SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD." S. MARK, XIV., 8.

The above Memorial was executed by Messrs. Jones & Willis, and described by them as "consisting of a Latten Metal Inscription Plate (surmounted by a Cross), mounted upon a *Campon Vert* Marble Slab of a richly variegated mottled green colour, with chamfered edges, and the whole highly polished." It is in memory of one whose earthly life ended November 28th, 1901; more than twenty years having been earnestly devoted to the work of the Church in this Parish.

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APPENDIX II.

Sketches of the Church,

and

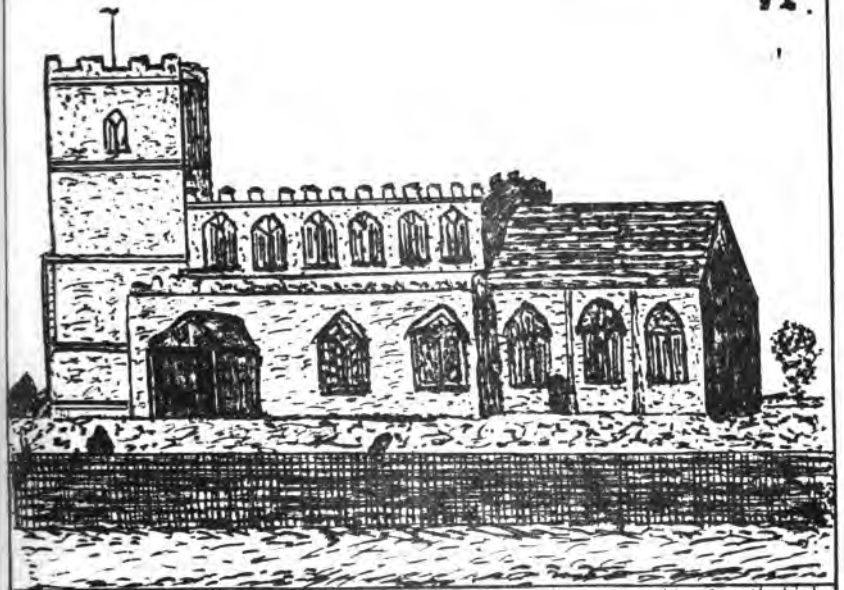
Old Monuments, &c.

(from the engraved plates.)

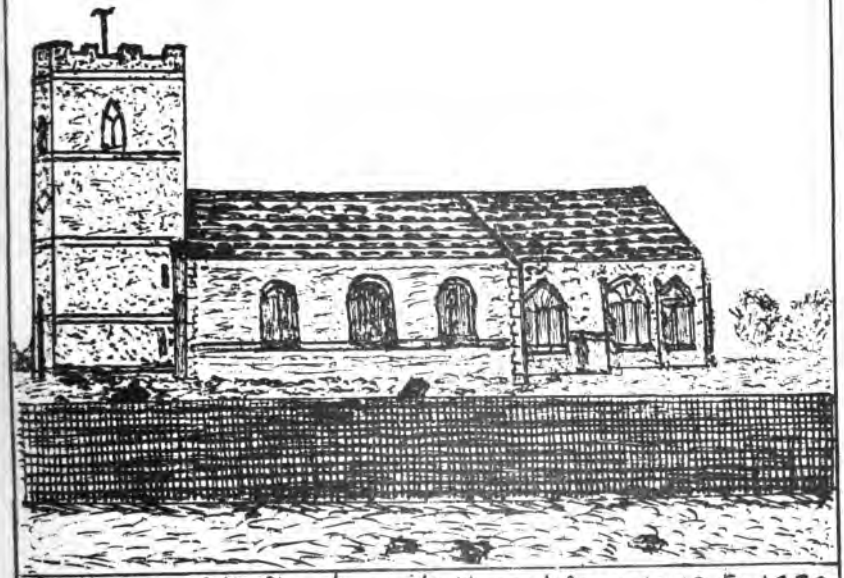
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A.

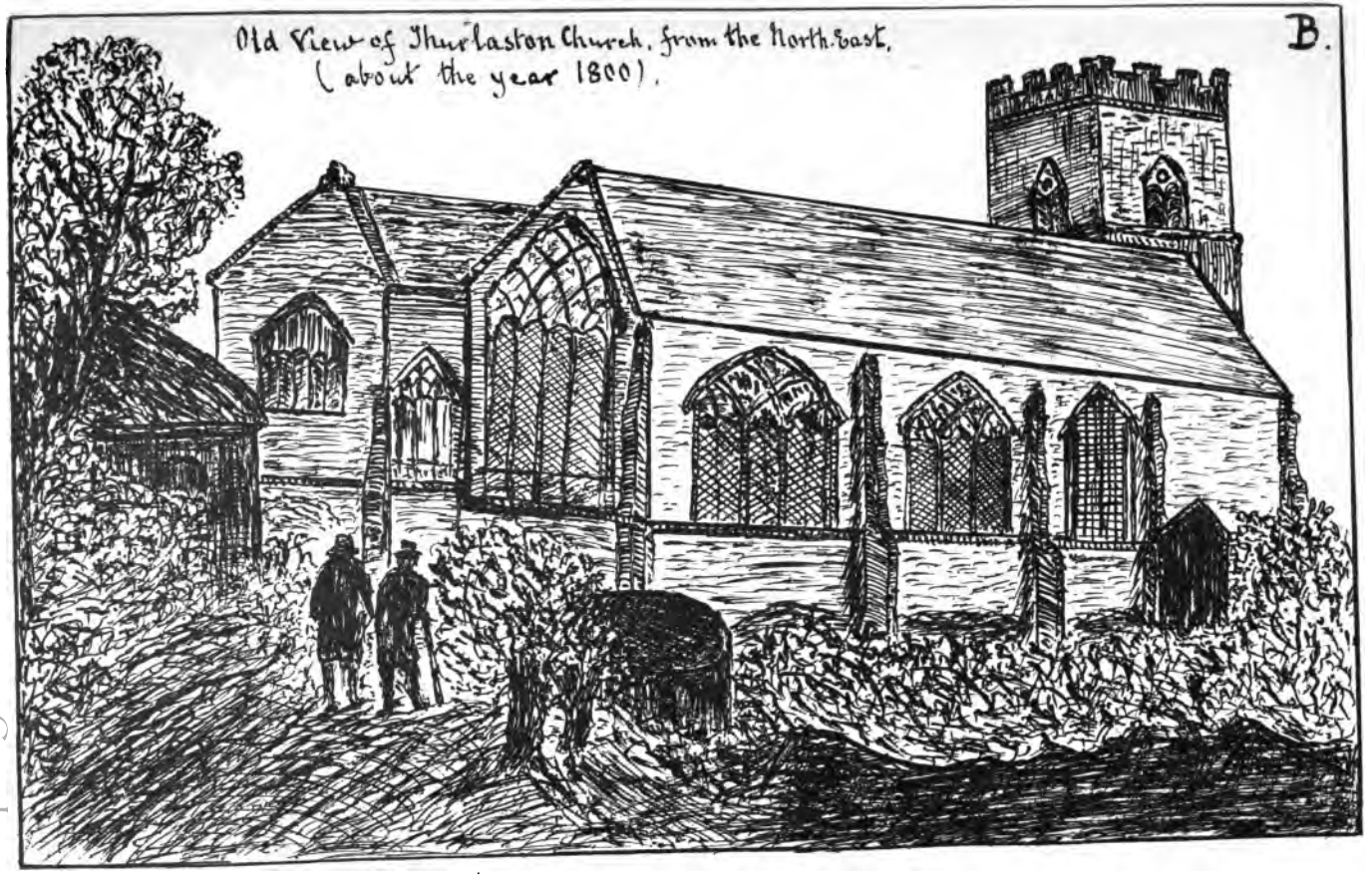


South View of Thurlaston Church, 1778; showing the South Aisle & Porch, the removal of which was commenced in that year.



South View of the Church, as it appeared from 1770 to 1850; showing the plain wall of the Nave after the removal of the South Aisle

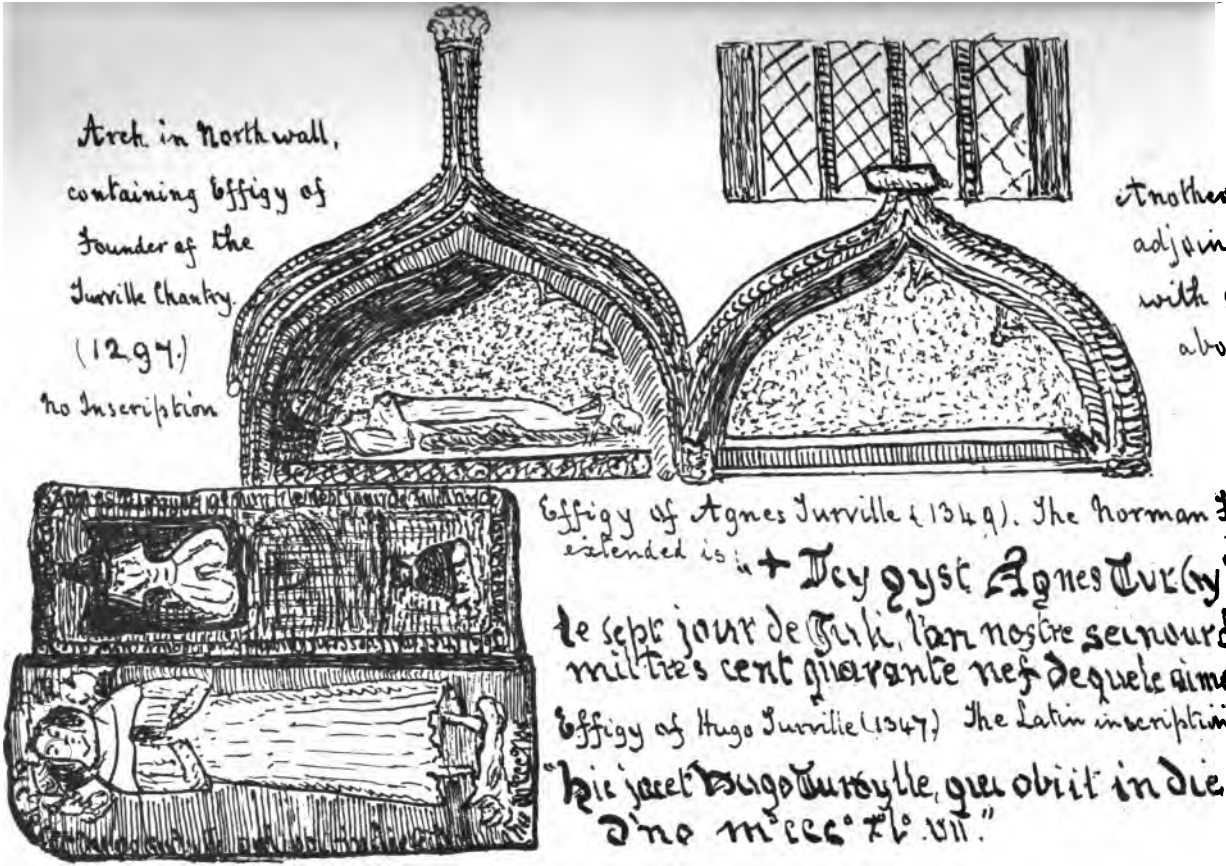
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C.



Arch in North wall, containing effigy of Founder of the Jurville Chantry. (1294.) No Inscription

another Arch formerly adjoining on the east with small window above it.

Effigy of Agnes Jurville (1349). The Norman French Inscription extended is "+ Dey gyst Agnes Jurville ge morit le sept jour de Juyl, l'an nostre seignur Jesu Crist, mil trés cent quarante nef dequele aime Dieu eit mercy."

Effigy of Hugo Jurville (1347). The Latin inscription extended reads - "Hic jacet Hugo Jurville, qui obiit in die Sti Dionisii Anno m°ccc°xl°vii."

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Altar Tomb.

Baldwin Bouge. 1435



No trace of this can be recognized.

The Latin Inscription extended is as follows:-

Hic facet Baldwinus Bugge, armiger, qui obiit sexto die mensis Augusti anno dm millmo cccc xxx quinto cuj' anime propicietur Deus Amen.

Figure of Baldwin Bouge formerly in a south window of Chancel.



The words on the scroll are:-
"Orate pro anima Baldwini Bugge. Domini istius ville."

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E



The Alter Tomb of Richard Turvile. (1414); the Founder of the New Hall Park moated house.
The only small portion remaining is shewn by the dotted curve.

The Latin Inscription extended is:—

Hic jacet Ricardus Turvile,
armiger, filius Willi Turbile,
qui obiit primo die _ anno dni
millo cccxiiij: cujus anime ꝓ-
-ꝓicietur Deus. Amen.

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Altar Tomb of William Jurvile (1454); & his wife Elizabeth (1476).
(A portion of this seems to form the eastern end of the large Altar Tomb now standing in the North Aisle.).

The Latin Inscription extended runs thus:-

"Hic jacet Dñus Turbile, armiger, qui obiit ... die mensis ... anno d'no millo cccc ... & Elizabetha uxor ejus, filia Thome Foulehurst armigeri, que obiit xiio die Octobris anno d'ni millesimo ... Quorum animabus propitietur Deus Amen".

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The large Alabaster Tomb connected with the tradition.
(No Inscription.)

This is found to be the Altar Tomb of John Turville, (1509) and of his wife Katherine.



The tradition cannot be authenticated.

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Altar Tomb of Richard Turville (1564); and his wife Jane (1584).

(The left hand side of the female figure can still be faintly traced).

The Latin Inscription extended is:—

"Hic jacet RICARDUS TURVYLE, armiger, filius & heres JOHANNIS TURVYLE, armigeri, qui obiit vicesimo nono die mensis Novembris, Anno Domini 1564, & JANA UXOR, filia THOME BRERETON, armigeri, qui obiit decimo octavo die mensis Aprilis, 1584."

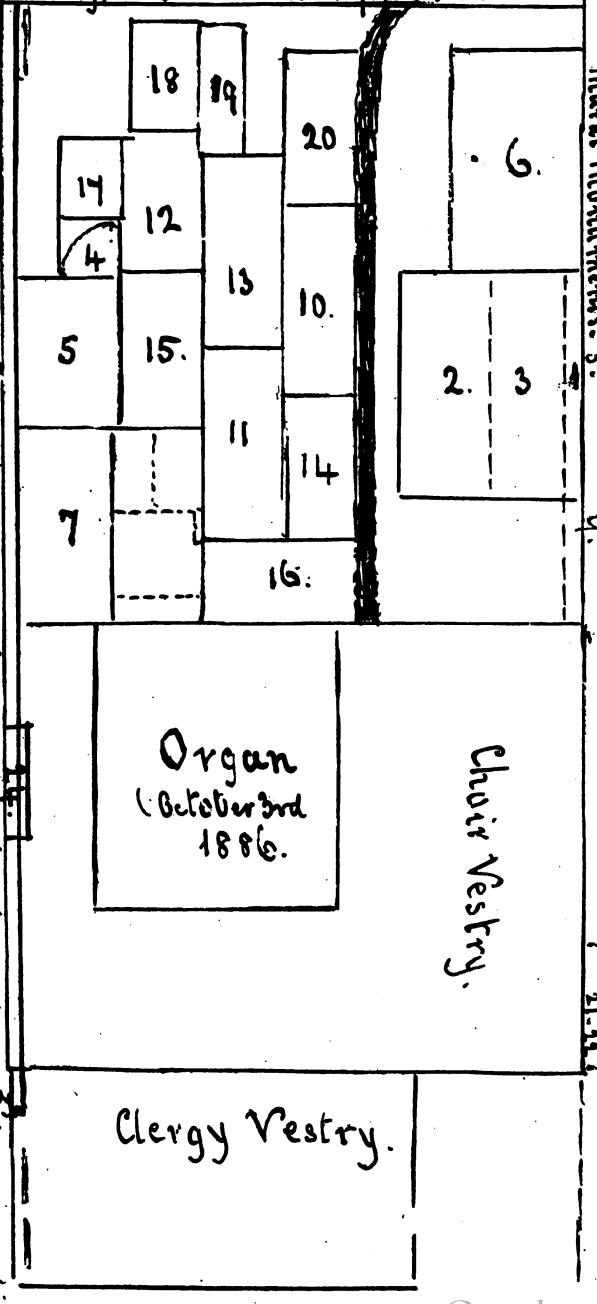
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Plan of the space formerly occupied by the Jurville Chantry, - as it now appears.

List of Tombs &c. yet remaining:-

No 1. Founder of the Chantry. 1247.
No 2. Hugo Jurvile. 1367.
No 3. Agnes Jurvile 1369
No 4. (Fragment) - Richard Jurvyle 1446
No 5. Marie Jurvyle.
No 6. John & Katherine Jurvile - 1509.
No 7. Jane Jurvile 1584.
No 8. Edward Jurvyle 1629.
No 9. Elizabeth Jurvile 1653.
No 10. Mary Boothby 1703
No 11. Roger Rose. 1707
No 12. Revd Joseph Paget 1705
No 13. Margery Rose 1722
No 14. Dorothy Rose 1733
No 15. Christopher Rose. 1734.
No 16 Jane Jurvyle 1705
No 17. Jurvyle Boothby 1784.
No 18. John Smart 1725
No 19. Isabella Yeo 1746
No 20. George Yeo 1749
No 21. George Yeo
No 22. Ann Yeo. 1775.
No 23. Edward Rose Yeo. 1762
No 24. George Robinson 1813.



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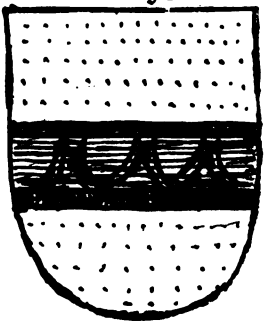
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Coats of Arms.

Champaine



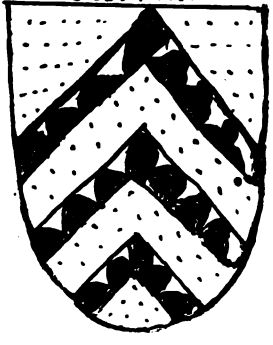
Bouge.



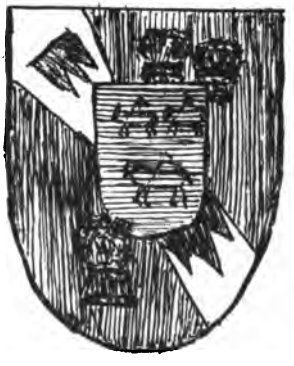


The Jurville Crest.

Jurville



Rose.



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APPENDIX III.

Chronological Table.

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Chronological Table of Church and State.

DATE.	
Before Christ.	In the age immediately preceding the Birth of Christ, the heathen inhabitants of Britain consisted of sixteen different tribal nations, chiefly under the government of the Druid Priests.
	The central portion of the island, in which Thurlaston now stands, was inhabited by the CORITANI tribe, whose chief towns were Lindum (now Lincoln) and Ratæ (now Leicester).
55	The first Roman invasion of Britain under Julius Cæsar made the island and its inhabitants known to the civilized world.
A.D. 84	Nearly a century after the first, a second Roman invasion was made under Aulus Plautius; and after a long struggle, the conquest was completed by Julius Agricola, and Britain became a Roman Province. It was at length divided into five prefectures, the one embracing this part of the land being called FLAVIA CÆSARIENSIS.
250	About this time, Christianity was introduced into Britain by missionaries from France (then called Gaul).
314	At a Church Council held at Arles, three British Bishops were present, the most prominent being one whose name is still used in the official designation of York;—the others were Restitutus of London, and Adelfius, probably of Cærleon in Wales. The name of this Bishop was— EBORius, after whom tradition give three others, named Sampson, Pyrannus and Thadicius
414	The Romans finally abandoned Britain.
449	The Anglo-Saxon tribes first appeared in Britain, and at length the following kingdoms (called the Heptarchy) were formed by them, namely:—
455	Kent by the Jutes, under Hengist
477	Sussex by the Saxons, under Ella
495	Wessex by the Saxons, under Cerdic
527	Essex by the Saxons, under Erkenwine
547	Bernicia by the Angles, under Ida) These two kingdoms afterwards formed one,
560	Deira by the Angles, under Ella) under the Name of Northumbria.
586	MERCIA by the Angles, under Cridda

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of Mercia.	See of Northumbria (Ebor).	See of Kent (Cantaur).	See of Mercia.	
586	Cridda.				
595	Webba.				
597			AUGUSTINE ..		Sent by Gregory from Rome, converted the Saxons of Kent, and became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.
604			Laurentius		
615	Ceorl.				
619			Mellitus.		
624			Justus.		
625	Penda.				
,,		Paulinus ..			Went from Kent, converted the people of Northumbria, where he became Bishop, and was thus a successor of Eborius, of York.
627			Honorius.		
655	Peada.		Deusdedit.		
656	Oswy.			Diuma	One of four Northumbrian monks, who preached chiefly round Leicester, became the first Bishop of Mercia, with Lichfield as the centre of the vast diocese.
658	Wulfhere.			2. Ceollach.	
,,				3. Trumhere.	
659				4. Jaruman.	
662				5. Chad.	
664		Wilfrid.		6. Wilfrid.	Archbishop Theodore restored Wilfrid to York, in place of Chad, whom he sent back to Mercia. S. Chad's Church near Lichfield, close by the Well of S. Chad, and the Cathedral begun by him, dedicated to S. Mary and S. Chad, are memorials of this Bishop.
668	Northumbria, Wessex, and Mercia alone now remained as independent kingdoms.	Chad.	Theodore.	,,	
972				7. Saxulph.	
675	Ethelred.				
678		Bosa.		Bishops of Leicester.	
680				1. Cuthwin.	The See of Mercia was subdivided into five portions, Leicester being one of them.
692				2. Wilfrid.	
693			Brihtwald.		
704	Kenred.				
705		S. John of Beverley.		8. Hedda of Lichfield.	The See of Leicester was again joined to that of Lichfield for 32 years.
709	Ceolred.				
716	Ethelbald.				

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of Mercia.		See of Northumbria (Ebor).	See of Kent (Cantuar).	See of Mercia:	
718			Wilfrid II.			
721					9. Aldwin of Lichfield.	
731			Archbishop Egbert.	Tatwin.		
734					Bishops of Leicester.	
735				Nothelm.	3. Torthelm.	The See being separated from that of Lichfield.
737						
741				Cuthbert.		
757	Beonred.					
,,	Offa.					
759				Bregwin.		
764					4. Eadbert.	
766				Jaenbert.		
767			Ethelbert.			
780			Eanbald.			
785					5. Unwona.	
	Kings of England.		Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.		
793				Ethelhard.		
796	Kenwulf of Mercia.	*Egbert* of Wessex by degrees subdued the other Saxon states, and was at length acknowledged as King of England. He, however, allowed others to rule as sub-kings.	Eanbald II.			
800					6. Werenbert.	
802				Wulfred.		
805						
812			Wulfsius.			
816					7. Hrethun.	
,,					8. Aldred.	
820	Kenelm.					
,,	Ceolwulf.					
822	Beornwulf.					

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.		Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Leicester.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manor.
826	Ludican.						
827							
828	Withlaf.						
831			Wigmund.				
832				Feologild.			
833				Ceolnoth.		Norman.	Norman (Vice-Earl).
837		Ethelwulf.					
840	Beortulf.				9. Ceoldred.		
853	Beorred.						
854			Wulfhere.				
858		Ethelbald.					
860		Ethelbert.					
866		Ethelred.					
870				Ethelred.		On account of the Danes having made Leicester one of their strongholds, the See was now removed to Dorchester in Oxfordshire, which had formerly been the seat of the West Saxon bishops.	
871		Alfred (the Great).			Bishops of Dorchester.		
875	Ceolulfe.						
886	,,						
888					1. Alfheard.		
890				Plegmund.			
900			Ethelbald.				
901		Edward (the Elder).					
909					2. Ceolwulf.		
914				Athelm.			
923				Wulfhelm.			
925		Athelstan					
926					3. Winsy.		
928			Redewald.				
931			Wulfstan.				

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Dorchester.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manor.
940	Edmund the Elder.					
942			Odo.		Turketyl or Turchitel.	
946	Edred.					
950				4. Oskytel.		
955	Edwy.					
958	Edgar.	Oskytel.				
960			Dunstan.			
965				5. Leofwin.		
972		Oswald.				
975	Edward the Martyr.			6. Eadnoth.		
978	Ethelred the Unready.					
979				7. Escwy.		
988			Ethelgar.			
990			Siric.			
992		Adulph.				
995			Elfric.			
1002				8. Alfhelm.		
1003		Wulftan II.				
1005			Elphege.			
1006				9. Eadnoth.		
1013			Living.			
1016	Danish Kings—Canute.			10. Ethelric.		
1020			Ethelnoth.			
1023		Alfric Puttock				
1034				11. Eadnoth.		
1035	,, Harold Harefoot.					
1038			Eadsige.			
1040	,, Hardicanute.					

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Dorchester.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manor.	
1042	Saxon Kings—Edward						Alwyn and Baldwin.	
1050	the Confessor			12. Ulf.				
1051		Kinsius.	Robert.					
1052			Stigand.					
1053				13. Wulfwy.				
1061		Ealdred.						
1066	Harold, son of Earl Godwin, the last Saxon King, was killed at the Battle of Hastings.			14. Remigius (1067).				
	Norman Kings—						Thurleston.	Normanton.
1066	William I. (the Conqueror)			Bishops of Lincoln			Geoffry de Wirce.	William de Tourville
1070		Thomas of Bayeux.	Lanfranc.				The King.	
1087	William II. (Rufus)						Hugh de Grantmaisnell	Ralph de Turvile
1093			Anslem.					
1094				Robert Bloett				
1100	Henry I. (Beauclerc.)							
1101		Gerard.					The Champaines	William de Turvile
1109		Thomas II.						
1114			Ralph d' Escures					
1119		Thurstan.						
1123			William de Corbeuil	Alexander.				
1135	Stephen.							Sir Hamo de Turvile
1139			Theobald			Hugh de Champaine	The Champaines	
1140						Nicholas de Champaine	The Champaines	
1147		Henry Murdac						
1148				Robert de Chesney.				

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manor. Thurleston.	Lords of the Manor. Normanton.
1153	Plantagenent Kings—	St. William of						William de
1154	Henry II.	York						Turvile
1162		Roger de Pont l'Eveque	Thomas à Becket					
1174			Richard					
1183				Walter de				
1185			Baldwin	Coutances				
1186				Hugh de	1. Henry.			
1189	Richard I. (Cœur de			Grenoble				Nicholas
1191	Lion)	Geoffrey						Turvile
1193		Plantagenet	Hugh Fitz-					
1199	John (Lackland)		Walter					
1203				William of				
1207			Stephen	Blois				
1209			Langton	Hugh Wallis				
1215		Walter deGray						
1216	Henry III.				2. Galfridus de	Sir Robert de	The Cham-	
1220					Eketon.	Champaine	paines	
1222					3. Henricus		,,	
1229			Ricd. Grant		Curlevach		,,	
1234			Edmd. Rich					
1235				Robert	4. Hugh de	Prior of Ware		Hugh de
1245			Boniface.	Grostête	Stanford.			Turvile
1250					5. T. de			
1254				Henry	Caytorp.	Prior of Ware		
1256		Sewall de Bovill		Lexington				
1258		Godfrey de Ludlam		Richard Gravesend				

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manor of Thurlaston.	Lords of the Manor of Normanton.
1265		Walter Giffard					The Champaines	
1272	Edward I.							
1273	(Longshanks)		Richard Kilwardby					
1279		William Wickwan	John Peckham					
1280				Oliver Sutton				
1286		John Romanus						
1287					6. John de Campania			
1294			Robert Winchelsey					
1296		Henry de Newark						
1300		Thomas de Corbridge		John d' Alderby	7. JohnSmith	Sir Robert de Campania, Knt.		Ralph Turvile
1306		William de Greenfield						
1307	Edward II. (of Carnarvon)							Sir Richd. Turvile
1311					8. Robert Grethed (of Ekynton)	,,		
1313			Walter Reynolds					
1317		William de Melton		Henry Burwash				
1320								
1327	Edward III.							
1328			Simon Mepeham					
1333			John Stratford					
1342		William la Zouche		Thos. Beck				
1347				John Gynwell				
1349			Thos. Bradwardine					
1349			Simon Islip					
1352		John de Thoresby						
1363				John Bokyngham			Sir William Champaine	
1366			Simon Langham					
1368			William Whittlesey					
1374		Alexander de Neville						
1375			Simon Sudbury					

Ralph Bassett of Sapcote.

The Lords Bassett of Sapcote.

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manors of Thurlaston.	Lords of the Manors of New Hall.	Lords of the Manors of Normanton.	Lords of the Manors of Bassett.
1377	Richard II.									
1381			William							
1388		Thos. Arundel	Courtenay		9. Robert de Swillington	Robert Grethed	Margaret Hastings		Ralph Turvile	
1397		Robt. Waldby	Thos. Arundel						Richard Turvile	
1398		Richrd. Scrope	Roger Walden	Henry			Baldwin Bouge	Margaret Bouge		
1399	Henry IV.		Thos. Arundel	Beaufort						
1405	(of Lancaster)			Henry						The Lords Bassett of Sapcote.
1407		Henry Bowet		Repingdon						
1413	Henry V.									
1414			Henry Chicheley				William Turvile		William Turvile	
1420				Richard Fleming						
1422	Henry VI.									
1425					10. Richard Ulveston	Prior and Convent of Shene				
1426		John Kemp.								
1431				Wm. Gray						
1436				William						
1443			John Stafford	Alnwick						
1450				Marmaduke Lumley						
1452			John Kemp	John						
1454			Thos. Bouchier	Chadworth						
1461	Edward IV.									
1464	(of York)	George Neville								
1472				Thomas						
1476		Lawrnc. Booth		Rotherham			John Turvile		John Turvile	
1480		Thomas		John Russell						
1483	Edward V.	Rotherham								

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manors of Thurlaston, New Hall Park and Normanton.	Bassett House.
1483	Richard III.							
1485	Henry VII.							
1486	(House of		John Morton					The Moton Family.
1496	Tudor)			William Smith				
1501		Thos. Savage	Henry Dean					
1503			William					
1508		Christopher	Warham					
1509	Henry VIII.	Bainbrigg			11. Elias Turvile	Elias Turvile	Sir William Turvile	
1514		Thos. Wolsey		Thomas Wolsey				
1514				William Atwater				
1521				John Longlands				
1531		Edward Lee						
1533			Thos. Cranmer					
1534								
1545		Robert Holgate						The Harrington Family.
1547	Edward VI.			Henry Holbeach				
1552				John Taylor				
1553	Mary I.						John Turvile	
1554				John White				
1555		Nicholas						
1556		Heath	Reginald Pole		12. John Turvile	John Turvile		
1557				Thomas Watson				
1558	Elizabeth.				13. Edward	John Turvile		
1559			Matthew		Robynson			
1560			Parker	Nicholas Billing-				
1561		Thos. Young		ham				
1570		Edwd. Grindel					Edward Turvile	
1571				Thomas Cooper				

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manors of Thurlaston and New Hall Park.	Lords of the Manors of Normanton.	Lords of the Manors of Bassett House.
1576			Edmund						
1577		Edwin Sandys	Grindal						
1583			John Whitgift						
1584				Wm. Wickham					
1589		John Piers							
1595		Mtthw. Hutton		William					John
1603	James I.			Chaderton	14. Richard	Edwrd. Turvile			Grey
1604	(Stuart)		Rchd. Bancroft		Sherwood				Hmpry.
1606		Tobias							Grey
1608		Matthew		Wm. Barlow				Catherine	
1611			George Abbot					Turvile	Nichls.
1614				Richard Neile				Jhn. Rooe	Foxley
1617				Geo. Mountain					
1621				John Williams			Henry Turvile		John Rooe
1625	Charles I.								
1626					15. Jno. Salmon	Edwrd. Turvile			
1628		Geo. Monteigne							
1628		Saml. Harsnett							
1632		Richard Neile							
1633			William Laud						
1641		John Williams					John Turvile		
1642				Thos. Winniffe					
1648					16. Rcd. Pullen	Edwrd. Turvile			
1653	The Common-								Roger Rooe
1658	wealth under Oliver Crom- well								

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manors of Thurlaston and New Hall Park.	Lords of the Manors of Normanton and Bassett House.
1660	Charles II.	Accepted Frewen	William Juxon	Robt. Sanderson	17.			
1662					Edwrd. Turvile	John Turvile		
1663			Gilbert Sheldon	Benjmn. Laney				
1664		Richard Sterne			18.			
1665					Francis Jones	Jas. Loudham		
1667				William Fuller	19.			
1672					Samuel Burrough	The King		
1673								
1675				Thomas Barlow	20.			
1678			Wm. Sancroft		Joseph Pagett	Thomas Pagett		
1683		John Dolben						
1685	James II.							
1688		Thos. Lamplugh						
1689	William III.							
1691	and Mary II.	John Sharp	John Tillotson					
1692				Thos. Tenison				
1695			Thos. Tenison	James Gardiner				
1702	George I.				21.			
1705	(Hanover)			William Wake	Peter Potter	Thomas Blenkinson and others	John Turvile	
1714		Sir Wm. Dawes, Bart.						Christopher Rooe
1715								
1716			William Wake	Edmnd. Gibson				
1723				Richard Reynolds				
1724		Lancelot Blackburne			22			
1725					Edwrd. Turvile	Edwrd. Turvile	Edwrd. Turvile	
1727	George II.							
1737			John Potter					
1743		Thos. Herring						

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Kings of England.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln.	Bishops of Peterborough.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Manors of Thurlaston and New Hall Park.	Lords of the Manors of Normanton and Bassett House.
1744				Jno. Thomas					
1747		Mtthw. Hutton	Thos. Herring						George Yeo
1757		John Gilbert	Mtthw. Hutton					Joshua	Edward
1758			Thomas Secker					Grundy	Rooe-Yeo
1760	George III.					23.			
1761		Robert H.		John Green		Nathaniel	Geo. Sandi-		
1768		Drummond	Frederick			Trotter	ford Crowe		
1777		Wm. Markham	Cornwallis						
1779				Thomas					
1783			John Moore	Thurlow					Holled Smith
1787				George		24.			
1797				Pretyman		Thos. Slade	Anne and	Joseph	Richard
1805			Chas. Manners				Elizabeth	Grundy	Arkwright
1808		Edw. Venables	Sutton	George			Trotter		
1820	George IV.	Vernon		Pelham		25.			
1824		Harcourt				Joseph	Richard		
1827				John Kaye		Arkwright	Arkwright		
1828			Wm. Howley						
1830	William IV.								
1837	Victoria								
1839					Geo. Davys	26.			
1845						Geo. Edward	Joseph		
1847		Thomas				Bruxner	Arkwright		
1848		Musgrave	John Bird						
1853			Sumner	John Jackson					
1860		Charles Thos.							William
1862		Longley	Chas. Thomas						Worswick
			Longley						

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Chronological Table (continued).

Date.	Archbishops of York.	Archbishops of Canterbury.	Bishops of Lincoln	Bishops of Peterborough.	Rectors of Thurlaston.	Patrons of the Church.	Lords of the Thurlaston and New Hall Park.	Manors of Normanton and Bassett House.
1863	Wm. Thomson							
1864				Francis Jeune				
1868		Archibald Campbell Tait					The Trustees of Smith's Charity	
1869			Charles Wordsworth	Wm. Conner Magee				
1871					27. Frnkln. Tonkin	Geo. Edward Bruxner		Richard Worsley Worswick
1876					28. William Townshend			
1880								
1883		Edward White Benson						
1885			Edward King					
1891	William Conner Magee							
1891	Wm. Dalrymple Maclagan			Mandel Creighton		Colonel and Mrs. R. G. Bruxner-Randall		
1896		Frederick Temple		Edward Carr-Glynn				
1897								

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